

THE
M E M O I R S
O F
Mrs. Sophia Baddeley,

LATE OF DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

BY
MRS. ELIZABETH STEELE.

A NEW EDITION.

IN SIX VOLUMES.

VOL. V.

L O N D O N:

Printed for the AUTHOR,
And sold by all the Booksellers.

M.DCC.LXXXVII.

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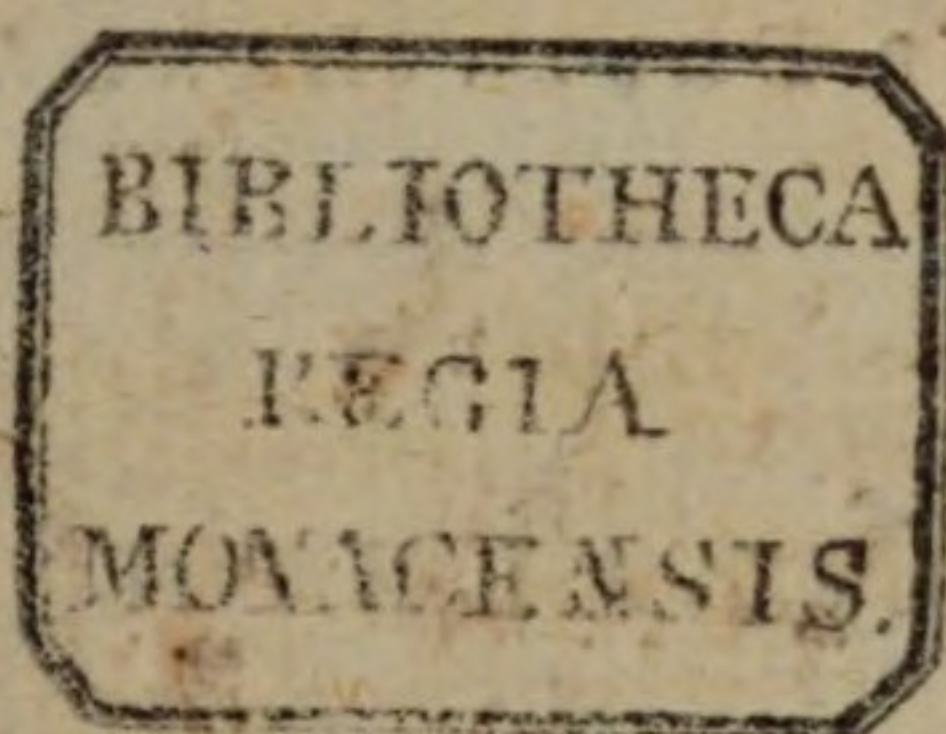
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BIBLIOTHECA

REGIA

MONACENSIS.

THE
MEMOIRS

OF
Mrs. Sophia Baddeley.

SURPRIZED as I was at this letter, I took a day or two to weigh the subject in my mind, and wished, before I wrote an answer, to see Lord Melbourne, as I should know then better how to act. As he did not, however, come in two or three days, I wrote her word, that she had ever found me ready to comply with any thing in reason,

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son, that would afford her pleasure, or contribute to her happiness ; and, as to her present request, I had no objection, as soon as matters could be settled here, which must first be done, and, begged her directions and advice for that purpose ; that I had not seen Lord Melbourne ; that, Mr. P. was pressing for money ; and, that Lord Coleraine still persevered in his pursuit of her ; but, not a word did I say of his application at Chelsea, or at Portsmouth. Indeed, his Lordship was truly troublesome. Like Marplot, he never was at rest. He came, and told me, he had been at Tunbridge-wells, a friend of his having said she was there. This intelligence I knew he had from Portsmouth, though I took no notice of it. I told his Lordship,

ship, that it was of no moment to me where he had been, and that I should say no more on the subject. He declared he would find Mrs. Baddeley, if he was obliged to travel to the devil for that purpose. My reply was, "Go where you please, but don't teize and trouble me." He swore he would be even with me before he died. I told him I disregarded his threats, and advised him not to take any unjustifiable steps, for if he did, he would certainly repent it; that, from a man of his rank and title I had reason to expect the behaviour of a gentleman, and was sorry he did not know himself. He now grew outrageous, d—m'd his rank and title, said, neither these nor all the world were any objects to him, nor did he

he care what befell him; that he did not value Mrs. Baddeley so much as I might suppose; but he wished to see her for reasons he best knew, and was determined to find her, if she was living. Tired with his conversation, I went upstairs and left him.

Three weeks past, and no sight of Lord Melbourne. He was not come to town; but, I received plenty of letters from Ireland, and one in answer to my last, saying, I had no objections to come to her, if she enabled me to act right in London. In this letter, she enclosed the following to Lord Melbourne, which I was to convey to him, and let her know the result.

“ My

“ My dear Lord,

“ I am hurt to be under the ne-
“ cessity of laying before your Lord-
“ ship, the state of my affairs ; yet, it
“ is now unavoidable. Mr. P. is become
“ tiresome for want of money, having
“ paid large sums on my account, and
“ I cannot bear to be so urged as I am
“ by him. In consequence of which,
“ I shall remain out of town, until I
“ hear from you, or that you have done,
“ as far as you think proper, to dis-
“ charge what I owe. You may ar-
“ range this matter with Mrs. Steele,
“ who can act with Mr. P. as well as
“ myself. Your compliance with this,
“ will oblige,

“ Your's, ever in affection,

Oxfordshire.

“ Sophia Baddeley.”

Thursday morning.

I will

I was pleased at the receipt of this letter, as I knew it would answer two purposes, one with my Lord, and the other to shew Mr. P. who was now impatient; as it would convince him of her wish to pay him, and her endeavours to that end. I accordingly sent for him, and shewed him the letter. He seemed pleased with it, and said, “ I find then, “ she is at your house in Oxfordshire. “ Had you any letters with it ? ” I told him not, that Mrs. Baddeley hated writing, and that she had sent it by the maid. This satisfied him for the present. He expressed a wish that Lord Coleraine could be prevailed on to advance some money; but, as I told him, Mrs. Baddeley did not wish to be under any obligations to him, and I could not venture

venture without her permission, to take even ten thousand pounds, if it was offered; he begged pardon for hinting it, only as he thought he might make her an offer, in this mad fit of love, it was a justice I owed myself to accept it, in order to discharge Mrs. Baddeley's debt to me. I replied, "That sooner than
 "betray any confidence reposed in me,
 "I would lose every shilling. I do
 "expect a pistol some day from this
 "mad-man, Lord Coleraine; and he
 "may fire it, and put an end to my
 "existence; but he shall never know
 "from me where she is." "What," said Mr. P. "not for a thousand
 "pounds?" "No, Sir, nor for ten
 "thousand," returned I, warmly, "nor
 "to save my life, if my life was at
 "stake."

“ stake.” “ Tell *me*,” said he, “ and
“ I will take the thousand pounds for
“ you.” “ No, Sir,” said I, “ not
“ now I know your mind.” “ Is she in
Oxfordshire ?” asked he. “ Ask me no
“ more, Sir,” replied I, “ for I will
“ not inform you.” “ Well,” said
Mr. P. “ you are much to blame.”
I begged his pardon, said, I did not see
the matter in the same light with him ;
that, whilst I thought I was acting right
by my friend, I was enjoying a serenity
of mind ; and, I would do nothing to
discompose it. He still went on.—
“ Think, Mrs. Steele, what a thousand
“ pounds is, and think how idle you
“ are in such resolves. To be plain
“ with you, I have seen his Lordship
“ this day ; and, he has promised me
“ he

“ he will give it you : and, after all,
 “ Mrs. Baddeley need not see him, she
 “ can easily be denied ; and, if she *does*
 “ see him, what harm can arise between
 “ two, who have known each other
 “ so long. Don’t be so obstinate—
 “ let me beg it as a favour.” I told
 him, I should be happy to oblige him
 in any thing reasonable, but could not
 in his present request, and nothing
 should urge me. When he found me
 resolute, he dropped the subject, saying,
 I was my own enemy, and that he would
 go to him, for that he was now waiting
 for him. I was not well pleased at
 Mr. P’s. interference, and told him, as
 he knew my mind fully on this subject,
 if he ever asked me again to tell him
 where she was, I would not see him

afterwards. He assured me, upon his honour, he would never trouble me again upon the subject; begged my pardon for saying so much as he had done, and politely took his leave.

The post-man brought me a letter from a friend at Salisbury, and wished to see me; it was to tell me, that a gentleman had been with him, and offered him a guinea, if he would bring him every letter addressed to me, through the post; that he might only see the hand-writing of the direction, and the post-mark; which he refused. I gave the man half a crown for his honesty, and told him he had my full consent to take that letter to him, and see how far his curiosity would carry him; but, not
to

to suffer him to open it ; and, that he might take the guinea for himself, but that he must not say I knew of it ; and, when he had so done, would have him come and tell me. He did, and this gentleman was Lord Coleraine ; and, I believe no man but Lord Coleraine, would have had such a thought. The post-man got the guinea. His Lordship said, that was not the hand he wished to see, but he took down the mark of *Salisbury*, and returned him the letter, with a promise of a guinea for every letter he should so bring. This curiosity cost Lord Coleraine a journey, (and this I foresaw) for he set off the next day for *Salisbury*, and enquired at all the different inns. On his return, he told this to Mr. P. from whom I

afterwards had it. I saw the propriety of not having my letters directed home. I *do* think I was myself watched; as I never went out but I had a follower, except to the post-office; which I took care to prevent, by taking water at Whitehall, when I could see if any boat was after me. Thus did I escape any one's knowing when I carried my letters, and as none at the General Post-office knew me, and they were not addressed to me in my own name, there was no danger of their stopping, or examining, any letters of mine, had they been so disposed. Lord Coleraine made no secret of his pursuits, for he told all his friends, and all Mrs. Baddeley's, that she was gone off, and was not to be found. This was but a nine days wonder.

der. Some came to enquire of me what grounds Lord Coleraine had for his report; but, as I refused to answer any thing, where his Lordship was concerned, I was not importuned. I informed her friends, she was well, and would be at home shortly, and happy to see them; but, that she did not chuse to say where she was, that Lord Coleraine might not be troublesome to her. This was always a cause of laughter, that poor Gaby, should be so thrown out in his pursuit.

The post now brought me a letter from Mrs. Baddeley, in answer to mine; wherein I acquainted her with the pains Lord Coleraine had taken to find her out, and the offers he made me, to

say where she was. She thanked me for my conduct, said, neither Gaby nor his title was of any moment to her now ; that she had suffered so much, on his account, as not to wish to see him more, and hoped his being kept in the dark would be a sufficient mortification for his cruel treatment : that she was then happy, and would if possible, keep herself so ; and, that she despised him as much at that time, as ever she loved him.

Lord Coleraine kept up a correspondence with my friend, that lived at Portsmouth, who began to be uneasy about his wife, having written to her, and received no answer. The letter he wrote to her, I answered, and told him,
that

that Mrs. Baddeley, was so closely pursued by Lord Coleraine, that she thought proper to go a little way out of town, to avoid him, and had prevailed on his wife to accompany her; that she would be back in a few days, when I would deliver her his letter: that, in her absence, I looked after his house and servants, and that if he was in want of any cash, I would remit him what he had occasion for. He wrote back to me, blamed his wife for leaving his house, without his knowledge and peremptorily insisted on my saying where she was, unless she returned, in two days, from the date of his letter. This put me to my wit's end, to know what answer to give him. In the interim, came Lord Melbourne, enquiring for his
dear

dear love, and on my saying, she was out of town, desired I would go and fetch her, for he must see her immediately. I told him, she was a long way off. "Where?" asked he. "At Scarborough," said I. "And who is it with her?" said his Lordship. I told him, a female relation of mine, my daughter, her maid, and a man. He looked angry and disappointed, and enquired the reason of her going. I told his Lordship, that it was to avoid Lord Coleraine, who was in pursuit of her, swearing like a mad-man, that she should live with him, and him only; "and if your Lordship knew," continued I, "how much he infested this house, you would pity me, and say, she had acted properly." He asked me, "why
" I did

“ I did not keep the door shut and
“ have her denied ? ” “ Denied,” cried
I, “ my Lord, a denial was to little pur-
“ pose; he would watch at the door like
“ a dog, and whenever it was opened,
“ would slip in, and go up-stairs. He
“ offered me a thousand pounds, to say
“ where she was, and I was fearful, he
“ would bribe my servants, to let him
“ in at improper times.” Then, why did
I let her go without me ? he said. I told
his Lordship, that owing to his stay-
ing in the country, longer than was ex-
pected, and not having given her any
money, Mr. P. was very pressing for
some, and his frequent visits, on that
score, made Mrs. Baddeley unhappy ;
and having some fears on the subject,
this together, with a wish to get out of
Lord

Lord Coleraine's way, induced her to leave town, and to keep things quiet at home, was my reason for not going with her. He enquired how much money Mr. P. wanted, "I replied," "What
" your Lordship can spare." He said, he had no money with him, but would consider of it, and see me again, in a day or two. I took this opportunity to give him Mrs. Baddeley's letter. He read it, put it in his pocket, and said, she was in Oxfordshire. "Yes, my
" Lord," returned I, "when that letter was written, she had been there a
" fortnight; but, Lord Coleraine, found
" her out, and went after her; and,
" this induced her, to retire further
" off." "Well," replied his Lordship, "send for her home; this letter is
" for

“ for money, and money she shall have.
 “ Sure she must be a good deal in debt,
 “ to go away on that account !” I
 said, “ she was, and that his Lord-
 “ ship’s bounty to her, had led her into
 “ it ; whereas, his having withdrawn
 “ his hand of late, she was scarce able
 “ to support the expence of house-keep-
 “ ing, independent of her dress, and
 “ other things.” “ Well,” said he
 again, “ send for her home and, en-
 “ quire, what is the least sum Mr. P.
 “ can shift with. I will see, what I can
 “ do to extricate her.” I told him I
 would, and we parted.

As soon as he was gone, I sent for
 Mr. P. and talked with him on the sub-
 ject ; he informed me, he could not do
 “ with

with less than one thousand five hundred pounds; but if Lord Melbourne thought that more than he could spare, he desired me to say, he would make shift with one thousand pounds; but that was the least, and that he must have more in a little time, for he was very short of cash. I flattered myself now that matters would be made easy by Lord Melbourne; for, though I had no expectation that he would discharge the whole; yet, as Mr. P. had undertaken to settle all she owed, and would be satisfied with a thousand pounds, I trusted all would be well, on this account. But the misfortune was, that though Lord Melbourne came, and though I told him what Mr. P. had said, he did not keep his word. His
Lordship's

Lordship's answer was, that Mr. P. must wait *his* time; that the town was full of Mrs. Baddeley's elopement; that different conjectures were passed, and that Lord Coleraine, from what I told him, might spread those reports he heard. I told his Lordship, that I was sorry, I had said any thing to Mr. P. on the subject; for, that now he would be more out of humour. Lord Melbourne said, he did not regard his humour, that he must wait, and should wait. I then hinted the expence of Mrs. Baddeley's journeys, and the time she was absent from home; but, not a guinea did he offer me; said he, however, in a little time, he would do every thing she might wish; and, he was sorry, it did not suit him at present. To keep Mr. P. quiet, how-

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ever, I borrowed three hundred pounds, and this, with the two hundred I had, made five hundred pounds. I then sent for him, told him Lord Melbourne was at present so circumstanced, that he could not advance Mrs. Baddeley any money; but, that having five hundred pounds of my own, if that would assist him, it was at his service; and, that I would try, and do better for him soon. He seemed well pleased with this; but said, that Lord Melbourne did not behave well; and, if he was Mrs. Baddeley, he would see him at the devil, before he would return to him, unless he first paid every debt she owed; that, since I had undertaken her affairs, his Lordship had acted d—n'd shabbily; and that if I would take his advice, it would be,

be, to persuade her to stay where she was ; which he should apprehend would mortify him, and bring him to a compliance. “ The words of these Lords,” continued he, “ are worth nothing ; “ and, I am of opinion, that whatever “ he does, he will do with a meanness, “ you little expect. I am quite hurt, “ to take this money of you, knowing “ the good disposition, with which you “ offer it ; but, my want of cash is such, “ that I must in this instance, run “ counter to my feelings and my natural temper.” I then asked him if I should write to Mrs. Baddeley, and advise her, not to come to town for some days ! He replied, “ Do ; and should “ you be in want of money, send to me, “ and you shall have it, or any thing
C 2 else

“ else in my power to accommodate
“ you with ; for I shall never forget this
“ civility of your’s.—As to his Lord-
“ ship, he would not care if I was in a
“ jail.” I did not tell him how indif-
ferent Lord Melbourne had expressed
himself concerning him, for he was an-
gry enough without it. He took his
leave, urging me to write to her, and
if possible, prevail with her to stay some
little time where she was.

I now received a letter from my
friend’s husband, begging, by the re-
turn of post, to know where his wife
was, and where he might find her, for
see her he must ; as, Lord Coleraine
had made him very uneasy. I was
much at a loss how to act, or what to

say ;

say; I had told a good many untruths already, and I found I should be obliged to tell many more. Thus does good nature and a friendly disposition draw a person into a variety of disagreeable situations; but, I had promised Mrs. Baddeley I would not say where she was, and I was determined to keep my word with her, at the expence of every thing. Had I written word to Portsmouth, saying where she was, Lord Coleraine would soon have known it; and had I refused to send a proper answer, or sent an evasive one, his resentment might have carried him to improper lengths; as a foreigner, he might have left his wife, and returned to his own country. I therefore, suffered one post to slip, and then wrote

him word, that Mrs. Baddeley and his wife were at Brighthelmstone, not supposing he would go there. On the receipt of my letter, however, he set off for that place, where he sent for Lord Coleraine; but, not finding them there, they agreed to give each other the earliest intelligence, in case either of them found out where they were. This I was afterwards informed of. My friend's husband went off post to Margate, and Lord Coleraine to Weymouth, in pursuit of them; the ladies having once said they would go shortly to one of those places. On this gentleman's return to London, he came to me in a most violent rage, and swore, he would larn his wife *description*; (he meant *scripture*;) and, would beat her, and make
her

her obedient to his will. I laughed within my teeth exceedingly ; and, not making any reply, he vowed with many oaths, that if I did not immediately tell him where his wife was, he would blow my brains out, for he had come prepared, and had pistols in his pocket. “ Come
“ then,” said I, “ pull out your pistols ; give me one of them, and let
“ me have a fair chance for my life,
“ and I will forget my sex, and fire
“ with you, as long as I can keep my
“ feet, and you are able to load them.”
When he found me thus disposed, he talked no more of his pistols, nor did he take them from his pocket. I told him, that I despised his threats ; that, I knew, not where they were, nor should I know till after the receipt of another
letter.

letter. I was not easy, however, about the pistols, and wished to have hold of one in my own defence. I kept up my spirit; and, observing vengeance in his countenance, I drew near the poker, and the bell, which were the only instruments within my reach. I assured him, that his wife was gone only to accompany Mrs. Baddeley, not in any clandestine way, as he supposed; but, to keep up her spirits, and that he would be put to no expence for her journey. "Spence!" exclaimed he with equal rage, "Vat is dat! D—m the spence!" He wanted his wife.—I asked him, if he had been home? He said, "No, I can no look at my ouse, ven my vife is not dare." I was glad of this, as he did not know how long she had
been

been absent. I begged to see his pistols; he took out one; I admired it; asked if it was mounted with silver? He replied, "Yes." I begged to look at it, saying, it was the handsomest I had ever seen. He put it into my hands, to look at it, but said, "take care, for
"it was scharged." I took it, seized him by the collar, presented it at him, and declared, "by the G—d that made
"me, stamping my foot on the ground,
"as you have put me in fear of my life,
"if you do not immediately give me the
"other pistol, you shall have the contents
"of this through your head." He trembled like a mad-man, in presence of one who raves like himself, as all violent and passionate men do, when they are overpowered; he said he had no other,
and

and tried to take the pistol from me. "Turn out your pockets," said I. He turned them out, and finding he had no other, I threw the one I had, through the glass, out of the window into the street; and it went off as it fell, but no accident happened. I looked out, and saw it taken up by a chairman, who ran off with it. He looked at me with a wild astonishment, and his tongue seemed wrested in it's utterance; for, he stood motionless, and silent as a statue. I bad him beware how he took such liberties with me in future; and, if he was at all troublesome in this affair, I would prosecute him for threatening my life; that, if his *wife* had offended him, I had not, nor did I see the *vast* impropriety of her going a little journey with a female friend,

friend, during his absence from home, when I had undertaken the care of his house. He then begged my pardon, said his mind was hurt, as he had a thousand different thoughts in his head; that his wife was young, and might be led into things he should dislike, and she might repent of; that, he had reason to suppose all was not well; that there was some hidden mystery at the bottom, and a great deal to the like effect. As I found he would not return to Portsmouth, till he had seen his wife, I knew not what to do. I thought, if I could get rid of him for a couple of days, in that time I might contrive matters; with this view, I told him they might be at Tunbridge, for I knew Mrs. Baddeley wished to go there some little time

time since. At this, he said he would set off for that place in the morning, and if he did not find her there, he would advertise her. When he was gone, I sent for Mr. P. and told him, I had a confidence to repose in him, which, as a friend and a gentleman, he must swear he would not betray; and, at the same time, said, he must promise me not to be offended at a little deception, I had been under the necessity of carrying on. He promised me on his soul and honour he would not, but would keep my secret faithfully. I then told him of Mrs. Baddeley's being in Ireland, and the whole of what had passed, except her declaration to continue there. To this he was very attentive, and said, he was glad that she
was

was so far out of the way of Lord Coleraine ; for he was convinced he could not have a good heart, or love her, or he would pay her debts. I related also to him what had passed between me and my friend's husband ; he smiled, and said he was a desperate man ; but, that I had acted with a noble and becoming spirit. He advised me to go to Ireland and fetch Mrs. Baddeley, and take this gentleman with me ; “ For I “ apprehend,” said he, “ he will never “ be easy till he gets his wife ;” and, he promised me, that he would take care of things in my absence, and would accommodate me with any money I might want for the journey ; and wished me to lose no time, but to set off on his return from Tunbridge, and travel night

and day, till I got there. I told him, I had about fixty pounds, which I thought would be sufficient. “Far from it;” replied he, “it will be improper to let this mad-man pay any thing, lest he should upbraid his wife with the expence: to enable you, therefore, to do the thing handsomely, I will let you have a hundred pounds. I dread,” continued he, “his going with you; but, as you are a woman of spirit, there is less fear: take my advice, and put a pair of pistols in your pocket. As soon as he returns from Tunbridge send for me, and I will appear to drop in as by accident, and see how matters go; but, keep a close mouth, and by no means let him know where you are going,

left

“left it should get abroad, and Lord
 “Coleraine should hear of it; for, as
 “they have promised to acquaint each
 “other, what you tell him, may reach
 “his Lordship.” I thanked him for
 his advice, and his readiness to assist
 me, and he left me with saying, he
 would take care of every thing in my
 absence, and hoped, that if I found it
 necessary to stay a few days longer in
 Ireland than I proposed, I would not
 mind, but write to him, and he would
 act in every respect as I wished him.
 “Perhaps, Colonel Lutterell,” continu-
 ed he, “may advance her some money;
 “if he does, and you are absent a
 “month, I shall not think the time
 “long.” I told him, that if Colonel Lut-
 terell did give Mrs. Baddeley any money,

he should have it. It was settled, that I should direct to him at his coffee-house, that he might not be supposed to be in the plot.—“ I think, however, “ it would be prudent,” added he, “ to “ see Lord Melbourne before you go ; “ though, upon second thoughts, it “ will be better not ; as it will keep his “ Lordship in suspense, and may be “ of use in the end ; if not, he will “ be only made, what I trust he is already.—I would have you get all “ things ready, that you may have nothing to do when this mad Dane “ comes back, but to set off ; and, that “ you may not be traced out of town, “ I will lend you my post-chaise and “ horses, for the first stage, and will “ ride

“ride with you, as far as St. Alban’s,
“and see you are not watched.”

I now prepared for my journey, and the next morning but one, came back my Danish friend, from Tunbridge, more full of trouble about his wife than before; he told me, he had not met with her; but, that he had obtained intelligence of two ladies, answering their description, who had left Tunbridge, for Dover, on their way to France; and that he was distracted, and rained, and would hang himself. I soothed him, and begged him not to be so unhappy about his wife, for that he would soon hear of her. He then stamped, and swore, and said, he would murder both her and Mrs. Baddeley, as soon as he

could get sight of them. "Hold," said I, "and hear reason, and you may still be happy. For yesterday, came a gentleman to fetch me to them." "Vere, how, and in vat place?" he cried. "Be patient," said I, "and we will go together." "Is it von mile or ten?" said he. "Never mind," replied I, "the distance; it is but a few hours ride, and the journey will be pleasant." I sent to Mr. P. but did not leave this gentleman to himself a minute, lest he should send to Lord Coleraine. I wrote to Lord Melbourne, said, I was going to fetch Mrs. Baddeley, who had sent for me, and was not well. Mr. P. came, and I told him before this gentleman, that I was glad he dropped in, as I was going out of town, for
a day

a day or two, thinking the air might be of service to me, and that I intended to take this gentleman with me, who, was a particular friend. Mr. P. asked, how far I was going; I said, about twenty miles; he then begged he might be of the party, and that his post-chaise and four should be at my service. The Danish gentleman seemed pleased with this, and said “ Oh! How vill my “ vife zoon stare to see me!” Yes, thought I, she will *stare* indeed, but not so *soon* as you suppose; let me, however, get you out of London, and then I shall fear for nothing. Mr. P. went to order his carriage, and I kept my gentleman in talk, till we heard it at the door; he had ordered it to be ready, when he left home. He put the hundred

dred pounds into my hand, and we set off for Ireland; my servants, however, did not know, but that I was going to my house in Oxfordshire. When we reached Saint Alban's and alighted at the inn, my companion in the chaise, (for Mr. P. rode on horse-back,) jumped out first, forgetting his usual politeness, and left me to get out how I could. He ran into the house, in hopes of seeing his wife; but, I soon undeceived him, by saying she was not there, and that we had further to go, before he could see her. "If this be the case," said Mr. P. "I must take my leave of you, and let you pursue your journey by yourselves; for, I have business in town and must return." Of course he left us. My companion said, he
was

was much disappointed, for he hoped to see the ladies. “So you will,” replied I, “if you travel on with me.” After a little refreshment, a post-chaise and four was ordered, and we went on for Coventry; but I only named the next stage. When we came to that place, he asked if they were there. I told him not, and that we must travel all night, and desired he would not leave me. Mr. P. before he left me, put a pocket pistol into my hand, which he said was lock’d, and bid me take an opportunity, to shew it to my companion, as it might be a means of keeping him in temper. When we got into the chaise, I took out my pistol, and said, I hoped we should not be stopped on the road, for that I had resolution enough

enough not to be robbed; and that the first fellow, that presumed to interrupt our journey, should feel the force of it. The sight of the pistol kept him quiet. He said, I was fitter for a man, than a woman; talked all night of his wife, and hoped day-light would give him a sight of her. He was very inquisitive about the place I was carrying him to; but I never resolved him, constantly telling him, that he would soon see her. Thus was his expectation kept alive, and he thought every village and every town would be the end of his journey. We travelled all night, and the morning brought us to Coventry. When I told him we had further to go still, he began to rave and storm; said he would go no further, that I was going

ing to carry him to *de devil*; that he would go to *de Commissaire*, meaning a magistrate, and tell him how I used him. I told him if he made much more noise, I would swear he was mad, and have a strait-jacket put on him; but, that if he behaved quietly, I would soon bring him where his wife was. Though I felt, in some measure, for his situation and pitied him; yet, as he had put me in fear of my life, I indulged the pleasing thought of retaliation, and was not a little diverted, at finding my fiery spark so much under my command. I had still my apprehensions, that if I told him where I was going, he would some way contrive to let Lord Coleraine know it, and therefore, was determined to keep up my spirits, and brave it out; knowing
that

that I could have the assistance of the post-boys, if I stood in need of them. We had four horses, all the way to Chester, and travelled night and day till we got there. When we reached Chester, he cried out, "Vat place is dis?" "Are you going to take me to de East-Indies, over land? Vor my part, I know noting of England, and you may take me to a place from whence I cannot return." I replied, "wherever he was going, I would go with him, and he need not fear." "Vear!" exclaimed he, "I am now past all veer." "Go where you vill, I vill go vid you." At Chester they advised me, if I wished for expedition, to take fix horses and go over the mountains. As we rose the hills, he swore I was carrying

ing

ing him to Italy, and that we were cross-
ing the Alps. I told him, we were in
Wales. "Vales," said he, "vat vor a
" place is dat? Is dis not England?"
I told him not, and asked him if he had
never heard of the Welch? "Velch,"
said he, "Vat has my wife to do vid
" de Velch peple?" I told him that her
father, mother, and all her friends were
welch. "So den she is vid her velch
" friends; d—mn her velch friends, that
" could get her to come so long a vay;
" vor my part, I am tired, and hope our
" journey vill be soon over, as I shall
" go mad; vor now I am out of Eng-
" land, and do not know vere de
" mountains vill carry me." To have
fix horses to draw us over them, was to
him surprizing. When we began to rise

the mountain, called Penmanmawr, he said, we should not get over that, if we had six horses more, and if they pulled to the day of resurrection. He advised getting out to walk, which I foolishly acquiesced in; for, on going over the side of this mountain, where part of the wall was fallen down, and the carriage being at some distance behind, he laid hold of my arm, and swore he would throw me down that precipice into the sea, if I did not tell him how much further we had to go. I said, "Not far," but, this did not satisfy him; he still held me, and made use of many bitter oaths, which alarmed me; and seeing my danger, (for the sea was just under us, and some hundreds of yards to the bottom,) I got my other hand into my pocket,

pocket, took out my pistol, and clapped it to his breast, and bad him let go his hold, or he was a dead man. He quitted and I ran back to the carriage, and he after me; saying, "Do not run away from me; vorgive me, vor I am a distracted man, and so tired, that I could lay down and die." The carriage soon met us, and I told him, I would quit it no more, that he might have no further opportunity of treating me ill. We got at last to Holy-head, where I hired a vessel to ourselves, the packet not failing for two days. At the sight of the sea, he asked me if I meant to transport him; I told him I did, for that his wife was in Ireland, and we should soon be there, for she was at Colonel Lutterell's. He never was more

astonished in his life, said it was well I did not tell him before, as he should have done me some mischief. I now began to reason with him, and advise him not to be displeased with his wife, for Mrs. Baddeley perswaded her to go, saying she should be back in fourteen days; that they did not know of our coming, as no post could travel so fast as we had. When at Holy-head, a blind man, with a harp, played us a tune, which he said, a lady from London had taught him; this was Mrs Baddeley, namely, *Where does my lover hide, &c.* I was so delighted with it, that I sung it, and the man played it sweetly. But this rash and cruel Dane took the man's harp from him, destroyed the strings, then jumped upon the body of it, and broke it all to pieces.

pieces. I was angry with him for so doing, and the poor man cried bitterly. I enquired of the harper the value of his instrument, and told him I would pay for it. "Pay de devil," cried my relentless fellow-traveller. "The scoundrel's music was my wife's tune, and he played it to insult me." As I could not persuade him to the contrary, I contented myself with paying the poor harper for his instrument; and, giving him a trifle over, he was happy. Just before we embarked a pretty genteel lady, apparently big with child, addressed me, begged my pardon for the liberty she took, but as she was going to Ireland, her time of reckoning was out, and she did not know how soon she might be taken in labour, requested a pas-

sage with me in my vessel. I consented chearfully to this, and took some comfortable things with me, in case such an accident should happen. This young woman was a milliner, in Parliament-street, Dublin. We had a very good passage, were over in six hours and a half, but she was very sick, and though I was not much better myself, I bestowed every attention on her in my power. When we went on shore, this young woman was instantly surrounded, and hustled, as I thought, by near fifty ill-looking fellows. I flew to her assistance; but, my fellow-traveller would have persuaded me to leave her to herself, and go in search of his wife and Mrs. Baddeley. As I could not surmise the cause of this treatment, I determined I would

would not quit her, till I saw her out of trouble. I begged to know what she had done, or what crime she had committed. The Irishmen said, I should presently see what they would be at. She was conducted to the Custom-house, and there charged with having a great deal of run lace about her. She declared she had not, but was not believed. I then stepped forward, represented her situation, and insisted upon it, that she should not be so frightened, as her life might be in danger. She fainted away, and I grew angry, and said, though I was in a strange country, and unacquainted with the laws, yet, in the present state of things, humanity might be shewn, and I would defend her at the risk of my life. “O,” said the fellows,

lows,

lows, “ we will *deliver* you presently ;
“ let us strip her first.” “ Do, said I,
“ at your peril. I am no smuggler,
“ but a lady on a visit to Colonel Lut-
“ terell, and am not ashamed to tell
“ you who I am.” “ I beg pardon,”
said one of them, “ but she must be
“ stripped.” “ Then,” said I, “ if it
“ must be done, send for a woman, and
“ let her go into some room for the
“ purpose.” She now came to herself,
and insisted on not being searched, de-
claring she had nothing about her, and
offering to swear it, if required ; but,
this would not do ; searched she must
be. My fellow-traveller swore and
raved like a mad-man, and wished the
woman at the devil, for detaining us ;
but, I was so convinced of her inno-
cence,

cence, that I determined to stand by her. Three women at last appeared, and being ordered to search her, took her into a room, and I went with them; and, to my wonderful surprize, they soon delivered this lady of her burden; for they took from her, not a child, but a bandage, that went round her waist, that contained three hundred pounds-worth of lace. I was now vexed to the soul, ashamed of my conduct, and begged pardon for my credulity; and, did not escape the upbraidings of my fellow-traveller. The consequence of this piece of kindness was, that my box was taken to the Custom-house, and forty yards of silk, which I had ignorantly brought over in it, (not knowing
that

that filk was prohibited) as a present to Mrs. Baddeley, was taken from me.

As soon as we were released from this embarrassment, we set off in a post-chaise for Lutterell's town, which was but a few miles from Dublin. In the way, I used every argument I was mistress of, to persuade my fellow-traveller not to treat his wife ill ; and he promised he would not. When we reached the park gate, which was about a mile from the mansion, he got out, and swore he would not go to the house, but would stay there, and bid me send his wife to him in the chaise : so much did I wish to see Mrs. Baddeley and my friend, that I would not contest this matter with him, provided he would return.

turn with her to the house, after he had seen her; which he assured me he would do. I met our man in the way, who told me the ladies were well, and would be in transport to see me; that, he was sent to enquire if there were any letters from me; that, my name was never mentioned, but Mrs. Baddeley wept, unhappy at my absence. On my arrival at the house, I enquired for Colonel Lutterell, and was told that he was not at home; however, I jumped out of the chaise, and desired the servant to shew me to the ladies. As soon as Mrs. Baddeley saw me, no pen can describe her joy; mine was equal to her's, and my child and friend so surprized, so elated, and so happy, that I was presently on the floor,; one kissing my face,
the

the other my neck, and another my hands ; in short, they put it out of my power to speak a word for some time. At last, I made shift to tell my friend, that I had brought her husband with me, but that I could not prevail on him to come to the house, till he had seen her ; that he was waiting for her at the park-gate, and that she must get into the chaise and go to him ; that he was angry at her coming without his knowledge, but, that I would accompany her to him. “ No,” said Mrs. Baddeley, hanging round my neck, “ I have now
“ got you again, my dear Steele, and
“ nothing shall ever part us, even for
“ an instant. John shall go with her,
“ with our compliments, and beg him
“ to come here.” John got up behind
the

the chaise, and back it went. As soon as my fellow-traveller saw his wife, he began to upraid her, with saying, she had led him a pretty dance ; but, that as he had now got her, she should never return to Colonel Lutterell's, whilst he lived, and ordered the boys to drive him to Dublin. John went with them, and I was unhappy till his return. He brought me a letter from my friend, saying, her husband had made the deuce of a noise at first, but was at last a little pacified ; that, unless I meant to return with them, they were to embark for England the next day ; and, as I had brought him out, unprepared for such a journey, he must desire me to lend him thirty pounds, to take him back ; and begged my answer in the

morning. Colonel Lutterell, with Colonel Smith, who had been to Dublin on business, now returned, and I was received by him in the most polite and friendly manner. He was happy at my arrival, particularly as he knew it would make Mrs. Baddeley so. He then enquired for our friend, and was made acquainted with every thing the reader has been told. He said, he would go to them in the morning, and try if he could not prevail on them to return, and stay a few days with him. We were elegantly entertained that evening, and Mrs. Baddeley assured me it was always the same, for he kept a noble table. Colonel Lutterell hoped I was come to continue with him. I told him not, and that I must hurry back as soon as I could.

could. He vowed, however, I should not go for three months, let what would happen. I had not a wish to return with the person I came with and his wife, as I had trouble enough with him in coming there, and therefore I determined to send him the thirty pounds he wanted. The money was sent the next morning, and an affectionate answer returned from my friend, with a desire to see me and Mrs. Baddeley, before they left Dublin; with her compliments and thanks to the Colonel, and Colonel Smith, for their polite behaviour to her. Mrs. Baddeley was very desirous of sleeping with me the night I came, which Colonel Lutterell acquiesced in, for that night only; so I plainly saw how matters were. When we were alone, she told

me the Colonel had been very kind to her; that she had no affection for him, and was determined to continue with him, if I would stay with her. “I have made him acquainted,” added she, “with the whole of my affairs, and he has promised, if Lord Melbourne does not settle them, he will contrive to do it some way or other. As to Coleraine, I hate and despise him.” I told her, that staying with her was out of the question; that I had promised to return to England, and certainly should; and, that she must go with me, for I could not be happy without her. We had no sleep all that night, and rose early to breakfast; and, when I told the history of my journey, and the behaviour of Lord Coleraine, I thought

thought the Colonel would have fallen from his chair with laughing. Indeed, when I considered the many different parts I played in life, and the many more I had to play, I wondered at my own abilities, resolution and spirits; so many scenes have I gone through, and so many strange adventures have I met with, that in recounting them, I can scarce credit the truth of them myself, and am led sometimes to conceive the whole as a fable; but, as I do not write merely to entertain, but to state facts, as they occur, my readers may rely on the authenticity of all I have related. I could have embellished this work, as other writers of memoirs have done, and filled them with observations and reflections, as I passed; a scheme which

others have often recourse to, to swell their volumes; had I pursued the same plan, twelve volumes, instead of six, would not have contained this history. I have, therefore, given my readers a plain narrative of facts, and shall leave them to make such reflections on them as they please.

It was settled to accompany Colonel Lutterell the next day to Dublin, and dine with some friends of his at the Castle; see my fellow-traveller there, and his wife, and take our leave of them. We went, and I drew from them a promise not to let Lord Coleraine know where I, or Mrs. Baddeley was. The gentleman seemed quite happy, and was reconciled to his wife; laughed at his
own

own foolish conduct; begged my pardon for his behaviour to me, and said, that had I not clapped the pistol to his breast, he verily believed he should have tumbled me into the sea. He then told me every thing that occurred between him and Lord Coleraine, said, when at Brighthelmstone, he was taken for a mad-man; “And, indeed, I was as “wild,” said he, “as him.” They sat off the next day for England; we dined in Dublin, and returned to Lutterell’s-town in the evening.

The next morning Mrs. Baddeley acquainted me, that Colonel Lutterell said, he would plan an arrangement of her affairs with me, and had a proposal to make me. During my stay, the
Colonel

Colonel spared no trouble or expence to shew me every place, within a day's ride, worth seeing, and all the amusements at Dublin. Mrs. Baddeley was there known as the Honourable Mrs. Steele, and was as much admired at the polite places there, as in England. It gave me pleasure to see the Colonel's attention, which was that of an indulgent friend; not extravagant, but far above any meannefs; and fourteen days past in the greatest comfort I think I ever enjoyed. Surely Providence chequers our happiness with occasional troubles, to make us taste our enjoyments the more, or troubles would not occur so often as they do. These fourteen days of social intercourse and placid retirement were at last interrupted. On the fifteenth
day

day, we were to dine with Colonel Lutterell, at a friend's house at Dublin; and we all three went in his post-chaise. The Colonel never went without a pair of loaded pistols, which were in the front pocket. In our way to Dublin, we passed through Phoenix-park, and were in high spirits; but, they were suddenly checked by a sight of a noddy, or one-horse chaise, with a box in front, on which I discovered Lord Coleraine's servant. As soon as they saw us, they stopped: Lord Coleraine, who was in the noddy, jumped out, his man followed him, and they came up and stopped our carriage. Mrs. Baddeley was so much frightened, that Colonel Lutterell called out to Lord Coleraine, and asked him, sternly, what

what he wanted. His Lordship replied, he wanted the ladies that were in the carriage with him. "How dare you," cried the Colonel, "stop my chaise?" "Because," replied Lord Coleraine, "I want Mrs. Baddeley." "You have no business with her," said the Colonel, "and of course you shall not have her. If you require any satisfaction from me, I am ready to give it you; but, the lady you shall not have, by God; for, I will defend her with my life." "I came here, Sir," returned Lord Coleraine, "for her, and from this place I will not go without her." The Colonel bad his servant go on. "No, Sir, said his Lordship, "he shall not go on." At this, the Colonel addressed himself to me, for Mrs. Baddeley

Baddeley was too much frightened to attend to him. "Mrs. Steele," said he, "do you put yourself under my protection?" "I do Sir," replied I, "and am ready to assist you to the utmost of my power." Out jumped the Colonel with his pistols, and I after him. "Come Sir," said he to Lord Coleraine, "take one of them, and let us end this matter, as gentlemen ought to do." Lord Coleraine then begged his pardon, said, he saw the impropriety of his own conduct, and was sorry; begged the Colonel to put up his pistols, and said to me, insultingly, "You see Madam, I have found out Mrs. Baddeley, without your information." "Take care what you say, Sir," said the Colonel, "for, by G—d, you

“you shall not offend Mrs. Steele. She
“is under my protection, and the least
“rudeness to her, will be resented by
“me.” Mrs. Baddeley said not a
word, but looked as pale as death, and
trembled like a leaf. The Colonel
then told his Lordship, that as he had
made a proper concession for his ill be-
haviour, he should pass it over for that
time, but advised him to be cautious
how he acted in the same manner again.
He then took Mrs. Baddeley in his
arms, and begged her to be happy.
Lord Coleraine came nearer to her, and
asked her if she would not speak to him;
and, on her making no answer, he struck
his forehead with the palm of his hand,
and exclaimed, “O God, I shall go
“mad.” Then turning to the Colonel,
said,

said, " Give me leave, Sir, to come to
 " your house as a gentleman, for I
 " have something to propose in behalf
 " of Mrs. Baddeley, that will atone
 " for my past misconduct; and, I re-
 " quest, for humanity's sake, that you
 " will indulge me with a candid hear-
 " ing; and, if what I have to propose,
 " should be so unfortunate as not to
 " meet with her and your approbation,
 " I promise you, upon my honour, that
 " I will take my leave of you as be-
 " comes a gentleman, and never trou-
 " ble you more." To this, Colonel
 Lutterell replied, " My Lord, you now
 " talk with some degree of reason, and
 " as I have Mrs. Baddeley's happiness
 " much at heart, I am ready to hear
 " what you have to propose, and shall

“ be proud to see your Lordship at my
“ house for that purpose ; but, permit
“ me to say, that I hope you do not
“ mean to amuse me with an idle tale ;
“ for, I am determined you shall never
“ have Mrs. Baddeley from me, with-
“ out her own consent. We dine at
“ Dublin, and shall return in the even-
“ ing, where you will find me, either
“ then, or to-morrow morning.” He
begged hard to take Mrs. Baddeley by
the hand, but the Colonel swore by
G—d he should not. He then bowed
submissively ; we went on, and he re-
turned to his noddy, and looked like a
man crazy. Mrs. Baddeley could not
but observe how strange a man Lord
Coleraine was ; that, he haunted her
like a ghost, and was now come to in-
interrupt

interrupt her peace. The Colonel assured her, that neither he nor any one else should discompose her; that, for her sake, he would hear what he had to say; and, if she would trust herself in his hands, he would take care to manage him properly. "As to you, Steele," said he, addressing himself to me, "you have a good spirit of your own, and had I stood in need of a second, I find I should not have wanted one." In Dublin, there was every thing to regale and entertain us; but, a heavy gloom hung over Mrs. Baddeley, as she dreaded the consequence of Lord Coleraine's coming to Ireland; apprehending, he had some evil design against the Colonel, her, or me. We returned from Dublin soon; and, as we passed

G 2

through

through Phoenix-park, we saw poor Gaby, wandering like a solitary lover: as the chaise passed him, he bowed, and we returned it. Mrs. Baddeley was, at the first sight of him, seized with such a trembling, that I feared she would have fallen into fits. She entreated the Colonel not to fight with him, and wished to extort a promise from him to that effect. His reply was, that he could not tell how he might be circumstanced, but assured her, on his honour, no such thing should take place that night. In the evening Lord Coleraine came, and drank tea with us. He kept his eyes fixed on Mrs. Baddeley, but she did not afford him one kind look. Colonel Lutterell sat by her. After tea, Lord Coleraine said, he wished to have some
conver-

conversation with Mrs. Baddeley alone; but she opposed this altogether; said, she had no secrets, and whatever he had to say, must be before the whole company. Colonel Smith was present. He said, he was not ashamed to declare, that his love and affection for her, was so great, that without her, his life was not worth the holding; that, he wished to have her home with him, whilst he or she lived; that he would make a settlement on her, and pay every debt she owed, let the sum be what it would. The Colonel asked him, whether he knew the amount of her debts; he replied, he did; and that he had it from Mr. P. whom he had often conversed with on the subject. The Colonel asked him what they amounted to. His Lordship

G 3

ship said, between three and four thousand pounds. This he was ready to pay, and more if necessary; provided she would be reconciled to him, and live with him. “Nay,” continued he, “as the fullest test of my love, whenever she is at liberty, if I am living, I will marry her.” The Colonel said, “he did not hear Mrs. Baddeley say she would accept these terms.”—“Nor,” returned Lord Coleraine, “does she say she will not,” “I will, Sir,” said Mrs. Baddeley, “give an answer to this, for I am determined never to leave this country.” “This shall be no objection,” returned his Lordship, addressing himself to her, “for if it be your choice, it shall be mine.”—“But,” continued she, “I will not
“leave

“leave this house; nor, in short, will
“I consent to hear any more of this
“conversation. I have experienced
“your cruelty sufficiently, not to trust
“myself again in any house of your’s.”
His Lordship confessed he had not done,
as he ought to have done by her, and
was so convinced of his fault, that he
would now give up all he had to make
atonement; and must own, that he
thought her of the two, by far the most
cruel, not to forgive one who loved her
as he did, and had made such ample
concessions and proposals. He hoped,
therefore, she was not serious, on saying
she would not leave the house she was
in. She declared she was serious; that
she was happy now, under the roof of
a gentleman who knew how to treat a
woman;

woman ; and that she valued and esteemed him on that account ; and said, that it was brutal in him, to take the pains he did to interrupt her peace ; that, she owed his Lordship no ill will ; sincerely wished him happy ; and, as her heart was then engaged, with an object deserving it, she would by no means withdraw it. “ I loved you once,” said she, “ I do acknowledge, and had you but “ treated me with common attention and “ civility, I should have loved you “ still ; but you took advantage of my “ fondness, insulted my regard, and “ acted like a tyrant ; deaf to my cries, “ and unmoved by my tears, you deserted me, at a time you owed me protection ; left me in distress and misery, “ and made your father your excuse ; “ and

“ and, had not my dear friend, now
 “ sitting by me, (pointing to me)
 “ assisted me in this extremity, and
 “ enabled me to pay those debts, which
 “ were partly contracted by you, and
 “ left by you unpaid ; a jail would have
 “ been my portion, and I should have
 “ pined away my life in wretchedness.”

“ My dear Mrs. Baddeley,” returned
 his Lordship, “ I trust there is some
 “ merit in acknowledging one’s faults ;
 “ I take shame to myself, and own my-
 “ self guilty of all you charge me with ;
 “ but, I have had leasure for reflection,
 “ and am come here with a resolution
 “ to atone for all my misconduct ; to
 “ entreat your pardon, for every offence
 “ I have committed, and to assure you,
 “ that if you will forgive me, and suffer
 “ me

“ me once more to enjoy the only wish
“ I have on earth, that I will, by my
“ future conduct, convince you of my
“ sincerity, and shew you how much I
“ am devoted to you.” Every one sat
with attention while he spoke this, nor
was he interrupted, but by Mrs. Bad-
deley, who told his Lordship, that her
conversation and his would not be
pleasing to her friends : that, as she was
determined to know him no more, than
as a friend, she requested he would drop
the subject ; then, turning to the Co-
lonel, she begged his pardon for being
the involuntary cause of interrupting the
quiet of his house, and hoped he would
excuse it. The Colonel entreated she
would not apologize to him, as he
thought himself highly honoured in the
confidence

confidence she reposed in him; and, whilst she thought proper to continue under his roof, she would always meet with his protection, and regard; and that, whilst he lived, he would gladly share his fortune with her, for he held her as a valuable prize, and should feel the loss of her, more than any thing that could happen to him. “And now, “my Lord,” said he to Lord Coleraine, “as you have heard Mrs. Baddeley’s declaration, I must request “that you will desist from any further “pursuits, and it will lay me under an “obligation,” Lord Coleraine, replied, he was too much hurt, to make an immediate answer, and told the Colonel he had a favour to ask of him. The Colonel answered, there was none that
he

he could ask, independent of Mrs. Baddeley, but he would readily grant. This favour was, to have a bed at his house for that night. This was politely consented to, provided no more was said on the subject, that proved so disagreeable. The conversation now took a different turn; but Lord Coleraine was silent, and seemed to muse within himself; which led me to apprehend, he had some dark design in view; especially, as I thought no man who loved a woman, could wish to sleep under the same roof with her, whilst she was in the arms of a rival. Mrs. Baddeley recovered her usual spirits, and paid great attention to Colonel Lutterell, who did not fail in a respectful return. When supper was over, the Colonel said, to
Mrs.

Mrs. Baddeley, "When you please to go
"to bed, do me the favour to put this
"on the table;" taking something from
his pocket, and giving it to her. She
said, she found herself sleepy, and would
wish us a good night. Lord Coleraine,
who had not spoke for an hour, said,
"Good night, Mrs. Baddeley." The
compliment was returned, and she then,
addressing herself to me, said, "Come,
"my dear Steele, will you go?" And,
then to the Colonel, "Don't be long
"before you come." "Certainly, my
"dear," returned he, "I will not."
As soon as we were gone, Lord Cole-
raine entered into close conversation
with Colonel Lutterell, confessed his
love for Mrs. Baddeley, and said, he
could not possibly live without her; but,

that if he could only obtain from her a promise, that she would return to him at some future time, he would go away contented, and stay in Dublin till that happy time arrived; that, he would cheerfully set her free in the world, and settle on her five hundred pounds a year, for her life; and, absolutely cried like a child. The Colonel told him, he would talk the matter over with him, the next morning; wished him a good night, and ordered his servant to attend his Lordship to his chamber. Mrs. Baddeley was very uneasy at the Colonel's being left with Lord Coleraine; but, as I assured her, from what I saw, that his Lordship loved himself too well to think of fighting, she hoped no mischief would ensue. I told her, that

I supposed

I supposed my fellow-traveller had made Lord Coleraine acquainted with the place she was at; and, that I imagined by this time, Lord Melbourne knew it too; for Lord Coleraine would be happy to make him acquainted with it, in order to check the connexion between them. She was of the same opinion; and that, notwithstanding all Lord Coleraine's great offers, if she confided in them, she should find herself deceived; for, that as soon as he got her to London, he would break his faith with her. I reasoned with her, however, on her affairs, and said, it was proper to think of them; for I dreaded the consequence of being wholly in the hands of Mr. P. I said the same to Colonel Lutterell, when he came up-stairs, who thought

with me, that some arrangement should take place, and that he would do all in his power to discharge her debts; but that it was impossible for him to pay the whole, or he would do it with pleasure; that, Lord Coleraine ought to do it, and that he might possibly be induced to it. "Yes," said Mrs. Baddeley, "if I would shew him any civility; and therefore, though I hate him; if you have no objection, my dear Colonel, rather than distress you, I should not mind, for a time, any torture of mind I underwent." "As to me," replied the Colonel, "there is nothing in my power, but is at your service, and you may command it. But Lord Coleraine ought to pay your debts, in justice." "So he shall," said Mrs. Baddeley,

Baddeley, taking the words out of the Colonel's mouth, "and we will contrive matters accordingly." With this resolution I left them.

In the morning, Mrs. Baddeley came to my bed-side, and told me, that she had had a great deal of conversation with the Colonel, respecting her debts; and, that if she would suffer it, he would even distress himself to pay them; but she was determined he should not, for, when she was out of debt, she would return and be happy with him; that the Colonel advised it, and said, though to part with her would give him more pain than he could express; yet, as it would only be for a short time, as he had her interest so much at heart, he

would trust to her honour to return to him, when opportunity served; and, that he would bind his Lordship to set her free in the world, before he would consent to her leaving him. “There-
“fore,” continued she, “though being
“with Lord Coleraine a single day,
“will be a punishment; yet, as I fear
“that Lord Melbourne will do nothing
“for me, I think I must comply. But,
“the Colonel says, pay, or do as he will,
“I shall not stir for a month. Lord
“Coleraine told him, he would go to
“Dublin, and wait his time patiently,
“to let me come to him; and yet, I
“have my fears. P. will not do with-
“out his money; and, I dread, that
“the villain Coleraine, will not let me
“be a day happy; for, he will no
““fooner

“ sooner get me again into his possession,
“ than he will use me ill ; but, let
“ the consequences be what they will, I
“ must get my debts paid, and by him,
“ on the best terms I can. I will
“ not suffer him, however, to use you
“ ill.” “ No,” returned I, “ I will
“ take good care he shall not ; and you
“ need not have been in this predicament,
“ had you followed my advice
“ and have had some bounds to your
“ extravagance.” She felt the force of
this, and declared, if she was to pass her
time over again, she would act very
differently.

I received now a very pressing letter
for money from Mr. P. ; shewed it to her
and told her money must be got some
where,

where ; and, all things considered, I did not see any way so likely as that she had pointed out ; that I was so averse to Lord Coleraine, for his behaviour to her, that I could not be commonly civil to him ; and, though to be with him, would be almost death to me, yet it was of no use to start objections, as something must be done for her good, and I saw no other way of getting out of her embarrassments, than the one she proposed.

We went down to breakfast, where we met his Lordship, who observed, that Mrs. Baddeley looked charmingly. He said, he had a better night's rest, than he had experienced for five years past ; and it was owing to his being under the same roof with her. She replied, " I
" should

“ I should naturally have supposed, my
“ Lord, that *that* would have disturbed
“ your rest ?” “ No,” returned he,
upon his honour, he had not been so
happy for some time. “ Well then,”
said Colonel Lutterell, “ will you spend
“ the day with us ?” His Lordship re-
plied, “ With pleasure.” After this, we
grew more free, and indifferent in con-
versation. He next addressed himself
to me, enquired after my fellow-traveller
and his lady, asked where they were ;
said, he was sensible he had been a great
torment to me, but hoped, when I con-
sidered the state of his mind, that I
would make allowances for it, and par-
don him. He then proceeded to compli-
ment me, and said to Mrs. Baddeley,
“ Here is an honest heart, that no bribe
“ can

“can purchase.” Mrs. Baddeley replied, “I have long known her value, and experienced her integrity in many instances, and want not now to be told of it.” His Lordship then repeated to Mrs. Baddeley what he had before said; that he would pay all her debts, and settle on her five hundred pounds a year. She asked him if he meant, that she should continue with him, and live in the same house. His Lordship replied, if she pleased. She said, she should be happy to see him every day, but that as to living wholly with him under the same roof, she would not on any account. He acquiesced in this plan, and said, in that respect, she should be her own mistress. Colonel Lutterell now interfered, and said, “My
“ Lord,

“ Lord, if Mrs. Baddeley determines
 “ upon this ; you will please to take no-
 “ tice, that I will not give up my hap-
 “ piness, unless, as a man of honour,
 “ you perform every promise you make
 “ in her favour. For though I love
 “ her beyond every woman I have yet
 “ seen, yet on the expectation of your
 “ Lordship’s bounty to her, I will sacri-
 “ fice my happiness to her interest. My
 “ fortune is but a small one, compared
 “ with your Lordship’s, but small as it
 “ is, if she could be at ease, with what
 “ I can afford to do for her, she may
 “ command my utmost services ; but, as
 “ this is not likely to be the case, I
 “ shall, much against my wishes, relin-
 “ quish her ; and, be assured, nothing but
 “ your Lordship’s promises in her fa-
 “ vour

“your would induce me to it.” Lord Coleraine assured him, that, as he had made his proposals to him as a gentleman; he should consider himself responsible to him for the performance of them, and would not recede from them, in the minutest point, “and, if I am so
“happy,” added he, “to have her return
“to England with me, I will wait her
“time at Dublin, and not trouble you
“any further.” Lord Coleraine, at the Colonel’s invitation, staid till the next day; and, in the morning, pressed him for his determination. He requested ten minutes conversation with Mrs. Baddeley and me, and would then give it him. We withdrew with the Colonel, and he took Mrs. Baddeley by the hand, and, with great tenderness, bad her consider

sider how to act, as to make herself happy. “I need not,” said he, “my dear woman, repeat what I have already said, you know my sentiments, and I wish to hear your’s.” Her reply was, that, with his leave, she would return to England with Lord Coleraine, in order to prevail on him to pay her debts, for she could never think of trespassing upon *him* to do it; that, his kindness and attention to her would never be obliterated from her breast; that she would be as little as possible with Lord Coleraine, and would, if he approved of it, return to Lutterell’s town, as soon as her mind was at ease. The Colonel asked my opinion; and I told him, though I had reason to despise Lord Coleraine, yet I believed he loved Mrs. Baddeley; and if he acted as

he proposed, it would, in a great measure, atone for his past conduct; but that I doubted his doing so; however, as I had still greater doubts of Lord Melbourne's extricating her, from the difficulties she was in, I thought it prudent to try what Lord Coleraine would do. The Colonel thought the same, and assured me he would tie him down to his promise; but, that he would not part with her for a month to come. On our return to Lord Coleraine, he looked like death, dreading the sentence he was about to hear. Colonel Lutterell thus addressed him. "We have talked over
" this matter, my Lord, and as you
" wish to have Mrs. Baddeley to Eng-
" land with you; on the condition
" that you pledge yourself to me, as a
" gentleman,

“ gentleman, and a man of honour,
 “ that you will pay every debt she
 “ owes, settle five hundred pounds a
 “ year upon her, and treat her hand-
 “ somely ; I will forego all the happi-
 “ ness I promised myself, and she con-
 “ sents to place herself under your
 “ Lordship’s protection ; provided your
 “ Lordship will not expect her to live
 “ in the same house with you ; but suf-
 “ fer her to live with her friend Mrs.
 “ Steele, as she has hitherto done, re-
 “ ceiving your Lordship’s visits daily,
 “ as you seem to wish.” Lord Cole-
 raine, with his heart in his mouth, scarce
 able to utter his words for joy, thanked
 the Colonel, and blessed both me and
 Mrs. Baddeley. He assured Colonel Lut-
 terell, that he would do more than he
 I 2 had.

had promised ; and, that if he deviated a tittle from the propofals he had made, he would submit to be put to death. The Colonel replied, he muft further add, that he fhould not part with Mrs. Baddeley for one month, from that day ; but, at the expiration of that time, he would personally conduct her to his Lordship, either in Dublin, or at London, as might be moft agreeable to him. Lord Coleraine faid, he would wait that month at Dublin ; but wifhed the Colonel would fay a fortnight, as Mr. P. was impatient for his money, and the confequences of his not being paid might be difagreeable. “ On thefe
“ conditions,” returned the Colonel, “ I
“ will keep her but a fortnight ; and on
“ this day fourteen days, your Lordship
“ may

“may expect to see her.” His Lordship, in transports of extasy, gave each of us ten thousand thanks, declared he was the happiest man on earth, would wait the appointed day with patience, and would trouble neither of us more. One favour he only had to ask of me, which was, that I would in the course of that fortnight, do him the honour to send to him, or come once a day to Dublin, and see him, during his exile. I told him I would see him occasionally, but could not promise him every day. “Will you then receive a letter from me,” said he, “and answer it?” I told him, I would, if it required an answer. With this he seemed satisfied, thanked Colonel Lutterell for his politeness, during his stay at Lutterell’s town; and, with

Mrs. Baddeley's permission, he would take his leave of her, offering to salute her. She drew back, with, "No, Gaby, we shall meet soon, and let that be reserved for our meeting. Kiss my hand, if you please." He took her hand with raptures; pressed it to his lips with fervency; bowed respectfully, with tears in his eyes, and blessed us both; repeated his thanks to the Colonel, and went his way. Mrs. Baddeley's servant accompanied him to Dublin, and on leaving him, he gave John a guinea, and said, he should now be happy very shortly.

Colonel Lutterell said, he could not help feeling for him, for he must be mortified beyond measure. "I could
" no

“no more have done,” continued he,
“what he has done, than I could have
“laid down quietly to be maffacred.”
“Nor any one,” faid Mrs. Baddeley,
“but himfelf.” For the fhort time we
ftayed, the Colonel was not remifs
in his attention, and took every means
to give us pleasure. He offered Mrs.
Baddeley money often, but fhe always
refufed it, and to my knowledge, fhe
never had a guinea of him; but, this
was *her* own fault, not *his*. This feat,
at Lutterell’s-town, was the property of
Lord Corhampton, the Colonel’s fa-
ther; but, having given his fon pos-
feffion of it, he could not afterwards
remove him; the Colonel knowing his
father had a houfe, was unwilling to
give it up. This occafioned a quarrel
between

between them, and whilst we were there, Lord Corhampton, then Lord Irnham, in heat of passion, sent his son a challenge in a letter, calling on him to meet him the next morning, at seven, in Phoenix-park. On the receipt of this unwelcome letter, the Colonel, with the most respectful attention, sealed it up in a blank cover, and sent his servant with orders to deliver it to Lord Irnham, with his duty and respect. This was done, that his Lordship might not suppose he would take advantage of, or shew what was, perhaps, merely the effect of rashness. During this fortnight, I saw Lord Coleraine four or five times, received letters from him daily, and at the fourteen days end, Colonel Lutterell attended Mrs. Baddeley to Dublin,

lin, and delivered her to Lord Coleraine, as he had promised. His Lordship having prepared a packet, and all things being ready, we went on board that day, the Colonel accompanying us to the water-side, where the boat was waiting to convey us on board : we took leave of the Colonel, not without great reluctance, as his care and polite attention to us merited our best thanks. In our way down the river, we ran foul of a post near the bank. “Bad manners to you,” said one of the boat-men to the other, “will you run a-head on the top of the post ?” “Bad stink to you,” replied the other, “how can we run on the top, when we cannot see the bottom ?” I mention these expressions of the Irish water-men, to observe how much

much better it is to use such terms, than the horrid oaths and Thames ribaldry, so frequent in the mouths of our London water-men. If a man must swear, he had better swear by his bottle, or any other thing he pleases, than his Maker. We were presently on board, and in twelve hours time at Holy-head, where we staid all night. I know not how to paint the self-satisfaction that was visible in the countenance of Lord Coleraine, having once more his dear Mrs. Baddeley in his possession. Had she been attentive to him, he would have been ready to have devoured her; but, she was reserved in her behaviour, and would not even let him sit by her. When we were at Holy-head, he would fain have had her sleep with him, but she
strongly

strongly objected to it, determined first to see how he intended acting by her. He said, it was cruel; but, if it must be so, he would submit. Whilst we were there, the poor blind man, whose harp my Danish fellow-traveller had, in his passion, destroyed, came to play to us on the new harp he had purchased, with the money I gave him. He told us the story I have related, of having a valuable harp broke by a mad-man; that, the same man had been there since, and that whilst he was in the house, he locked himself up, lest he should do him a second injury. This led to the story of Lord Colerain's being taken for a mad-man, at Bright-helmstone, as I have before related; which was then understood by the blind harper,

harper, who conceived his Lordship was mad at intervals, and induced him to say to me, "I hope the gentleman
"is not mad now." His Lordship, by way of fun, jumped up, and roared out, "Yes, by the L—d am I, raving
"mad." The poor bard, alarmed at this, ran out of the room in such a fright, that he scarce knew how he got out: went into the kitchen, told the maids that the nobleman, in company with two ladies, was out of his mind; and, that whilst he was playing to him he fell into a raving fit. When we returned to our chamber, for Mrs. Baddeley slept with me, the chamber-maid enquired into this, and we told her, the gentleman was certainly a lunatic, but at times was as quiet as a lamb; however,
at

at other times, would do a great deal of mischief, and destroy every thing about him; but, that these mad fits did not come upon him once in a week; and, as he was just out of his raving fits, there was little danger. This intelligence was communicated to the mistress of the house, and the room, in which his Lordship slept, was stripped of every thing of any value. When he went to bed, the mistress of the inn frequently listened at his door, and the maid came in to tell us, that she had taken the looking-glass out of the room where the mad Lord slept, and had been to see whether he was quiet, and was happy to acquaint us, that he was asleep, and had had no raving fit. In the morning, we told the maid, that, if she was very attentive to

his Lordship, and did every thing he bad her, he would not rave at all. She told us, that he came to their house about three weeks ago, in a chaise, with six horses, and his footman in the chaise with him, to prevent his doing any mischief. In short, the girl made us laugh with her conjectures and her apprehensions, till we were quite sick. The girl said, she believed the Londoners were all mad, for when they came there, they flew, and tore, and stormed as if the devil was in them.

I advised Mrs. Baddeley to be more civil and attentive to Lord Coleraine, lest he should fly from his promise; but, she said, she should find a difficulty in being so, she detested him
so

so much ; and, as to his promise, she would be bound Colonel Lutterell would keep him to it, for Lord Coleraine would do any thing rather than fight ; “ indeed,” continued she, “ he “ is too much in love with his sweet “ person to expose it to any risk ; don’t “ you observe how he is constantly “ strutting before the glass, first admir- “ ing his leg, then his foot, and, when “ he has no glass to see his face in, is “ he not always looking at his hand ? “ He forgets that I expect some share “ of his admiration ; and, if he does “ this, I shall forget to be civil to “ him.”

The mistress of the house went to call Lord Coleraine up, for the maid was

afraid to go near him ; and he swore so much at being disturbed, that the whole house was confirmed in their opinion of his insanity. He d—ned the harper who was playing at our room door, and said, he never heard so much noise in an inn before. We hurried down to breakfast in order to get on our journey early, and Lord Coleraine was as eager to be gone as we were ; for he said, the people stared at him, as if they were afraid of him. We did not tell him the opinion of the people concerning him, or he would have been mad indeed. The carriages were ordered, his Lordship paid the bill, and we went. I and my daughter, Lord Coleraine and Mrs. Baddeley, travelled in her coach, which she left at Holyhead, when she went to
Dublin ;

Dublin; and, her maid and man in a post-chaise. His Lordship was seemingly in good spirits; but, as Mrs. Baddeley refused him her hand, at times, when he would have taken hold of it, and was rather reserved to him, he grew sulky. We went on pretty quiet, however, till we got to Coventry, where Lord Coleraine began in his usual way to pick a quarrel with her, on account of Lord Melbourne, and spoke very disrespectfully of him and Colonel Luttrell, which we very properly resented. In short, he behaved so ill, that we could scarce put up with him. Mrs. Baddeley told him, she was not sorry he had shewn his vile temper so early; for, as she had not got to the end of her journey, she would go no farther with

him, but would return the next day to Dublin. This alarmed him; he begged pardon, and promised not to offend in the same way again, and all was made up. When we reached London, he stopped at his own house, begged us to alight, and said, he would send for Mr. P. immediately. This induced us to comply. Mr. P. was sent for, and was happy to see us altogether. “You
“see, Sir,” said Lord Coleraine to him, “that after perils of the land,
“perils of the sea, and perils of the
“sword, I have at last obtained the
“summit of my wishes; and have got
“my sweet woman once more into my
“own possession, and am in my own
“house again safe and well. I have
“taken the liberty to send for you, to
“settle

“ settle matters with you respecting
 “ Mrs. Baddeley. It is on these con-
 “ ditions that she has returned to me;
 “ and, if you will do me the favour
 “ to come here to-morrow, at three
 “ o’clock, with a state of the accounts,
 “ I will pay you the balance; and, as
 “ a proof of my intentions to do so,”
 (going to a drawer and giving him a
 five hundred pound bank-note) “ please
 “ to take this with you in part.” This
 pleased Mrs. Baddeley, and no less so
 Mr. P.; but, the first thing that Mrs.
 Baddeley thought of, and enquired af-
 ter, was her cat, which Mr. P. assured
 her was well. She then proposed going
 home to see it, but Lord Coleraine said
 she must stay with him that night. She
 declared, however, she could not, but
 after

after a great many entreaties, and above three hours importuning on his part, she at last consented. She would have had me to have staid with her ; but, as I told her I had sworn never to sleep under his roof, nor suffer him to sleep under mine, I would not break it ; of course I left her, saying, I would see her the next day. On my return home, I enquired if Lord Melbourne had been to ask for us, and was told, once. Mr. P. called on me the next morning, before he went to Lord Coleraine's ; said, it was reported that Mrs. Baddeley had run away, and that the consequence was distressing to him, as her creditors were very troublesome, and that he had been arrested seventeen times on her account, and, that for drafts not yet due ; but, that

that he had bailed them, and of course had gained time. I told him, I was sorry to hear it, as the time was of little moment when set against the affront. He gave me to understand, that none of the writs were served on him, through a friend in the Sheriff's office, and the influence of a fee. He had always intelligence when a writ was taken out, and he sent and bailed it immediately; that, he did not send her word of this, as he knew she was in Ireland for a good purpose, and would be shortly back. Whilst he was with me, Mrs. Baddeley came from Lord Coleraine's, cried much, and said, he was still the same bad-hearted man as ever, and declared he would not now pay Mr. P. and had used her very ill; that, I had not been
gone

gone an hour, before he began to upbraid her, and make use of language of the most insolent resentment his imagination could conceive; that he locked her in, or she would have run away from him. “Oh!” said she, “my
“ dear Steele, he is such a villain, I
“ do not know how to describe his brutality to me. Had he left me where
“ he found me, my debts would all
“ have been paid; but, his false promises have only served to involve
“ me the more.” Mr. P. begged her to be pacified, said, he was convinced Lord Coleraine was a bad man, but he would try what he could do with him.
“ In short,” said he, “ let him act as
“ he will; it is necessary you should
“ keep up your spirits and connexions,
“ or

“ or the world will not notice you; follow, therefore, my advice, and all will be well.” He staid with us till the appointed hour, and then went to Lord Coleraine’s. He was received with a laugh, and “ You are come Mr. P. and you may go again, for I have altered my mind. You are welcome to the five hundred pounds you had last night, but not a shilling more will I ever pay for her.” Mr. P. having been made acquainted with some of the promises Lord Coleraine had made, talked much to him on that head; and, at last, his Lordship gave him two hundred pounds more, and took his receipt for the seven hundred pounds, and said, he might possibly be of another way of thinking by and by; but, that

that at present, he would do no more. Mr. P. then left him, and observed to us, that the honour of these men lay totally in their title; that breach of faith in a tradesman would be counted highly dishonourable, but, that Noblemen seemed to pride themselves in their want of integrity; and that from what he had seen of Lord Melbourne, Lord Coleraine, and others, he hoped God would defend him from such *honourable* men. Mrs. Baddeley now shewed her arms to Mr. P. and they were black from her shoulders to her wrists, with the blows Lord Coleraine had given her; he having beat her unmercifully; and she was once afraid he would have murdered her. “He wanted me,” said she to me, “to run off with him
“ to

“ to France, and leave you and Mr. P.
 “ in the lurch ; and, on my saying
 “ that I would beg my bread before I
 “ would be guilty of so base an act ;
 “ he asked me, if I was simple enough
 “ to suppose that he would pay all the
 “ money I owed ; and, that he had
 “ given that fellow P. the five hundred
 “ pounds to *sweeten* him, till he could
 “ get away ; in short, he said, what no
 “ man of any principle would have said ;
 “ and, I could not get from him, but
 “ with a promise to return to dinner,
 “ but no more into his house will I
 “ ever go.” Mr. P. and I commended
 her for this, and he asked us, if we
 wanted money. We told him not ;
 nay, Mrs. Baddeley said, she was hurt
 that he had no more, but she would take
 Vol. V. L care

care he should have more before it was long: he urged her to take the two hundred pounds he had received that morning, and gave it to me; I took it, and said, if he wanted it, he knew where to find it; for, though I should not probably have occasion to make use of it, it might be as well to have it in the house. He advised Mrs Baddeley never to let Lord Coleraine come into her house, and he would always stand her friend, and left us. Lord Coleraine's servant presently brought his master's compliments, telling Mrs. Baddeley, dinner had waited near two hours for her. She sent him word, he might then eat it, for she would come no more to him. On the receipt of this answer, he flew to our house, and I went to him,
and

and told him, that his treatment of Mrs. Baddeley was so abominable, that she would never see him more, but in public ; that he ought to be ashamed of himself ; that he was a man without honour ; that, he should never see his foot within my doors again ; and, that if he did not quit the house immediately, I would call for assistance, and turn him out ; that he was a villain for using her as he had done ; that I would expose him to the world for the sake of all women, that no other might be so deceived as she had been. “ Do,” returned he, “ and I will be even with “ you.” I told him, he was a coward, or he would not have beat her as he had, and that it was a wonder he had not killed her. He replied, “ I wish I
L 2. “ had.”

“ had.” This so exasperated me, that I stormed at him, bad him quit my house that instant, or he must take the consequences. He went away in a rage, and Mrs. Baddeley, who was listening at the door, and heard what passed, was well pleased with me, but said, she feared he would never be easy till he had murdered one of us. “ I will now
“ see,” added she, “ what Lord Mel-
“ bourne is disposed to do; for if he
“ thinks proper to leave me, he should
“ set me free in the world, or he will
“ not act as a gentleman. I will not
“ send to him,” continued she, “ but
“ have it inserted in the papers, that I
“ am come to town, and he will pre-
“ sently know it; and, if he does not
“ come, I will find him out in public.”

I accord-

I accordingly wrote, *Yesterday arrived in town, Mrs. Baddeley, of Drury-lane Theatre;* and sent it to the Morning-post for insertion.

She had now made up her mind, respecting Lord Coleraine, and determined to have done with him; for his treatment of her in the night, she said, was so brutal, that a savage could not have used her worse. She was in pain from the blows she had received for some days, and not disposed to see any one, of course we gave orders to be denied to all but Mr. P. or Lord Melbourne if he called; and on no account to let Lord Coleraine within the doors. We kept our room two days, in which time we heard the means Lord Cole-

raine took to find us out. A maid-servant of my friend at Chelsea, to whom on her return from Ireland, her mistress had said where she had been; knowing how anxious his Lordship was to find Mrs. Baddeley out, went to him, and told him, if he would give her ten guineas, she would inform him; he gave her this sum, and set off for Dublin immediately.

Mr. P. called, said he had met Lord Coleraine, who was sorry he had given Mrs. Baddeley a shilling, as she had refused to see him. “I told his Lordship, said Mr. P. “that if she did see him
“again, she ought to be sacrificed; for
“that I could not have treated a dog,
“as he treated her.” We acquainted
him

him with our intention, respecting Lord Melbourne, and he approved it, and advised Mrs. Baddeley to keep up her spirits, and go into the world, and he was sure all would be well. "I think," continued Mr. P. "If Lord Melbourne does not come in a few days, you had better let me go to him, and hear what he has to say for his behaviour to you and me." Mrs. Baddeley replied, that she would, with his leave, endeavour to meet him first in public, and if that had not the desired effect, he should then wait on him. This was agreed on.

The next day, we took a ride into Hyde-park, and went to see our friend at Chelsea; who told us that every thing
was

was made up between her and her husband; that Lord Coleraine had been with her, to know where we were, but that she excused herself from telling him, by saying, she had sworn not to do it; and when we told her how her servant had acted, she discharged her. On our return, we met the Duke of Queensberry, who welcomed us back, and invited us to dinner. In the evening we went to the Opera, where all Mrs. Baddeley's friends flocked round her, and seemed happy in her return. Lord Palmerston continued the whole evening with us, and he and the Honourable Mr. Hobart, handed us to our carriage. The next day we went to Mr. King's, the silk-mercant's. He hoped we were come to be customers. Mrs.

Baddeley

Baddeley said no, that she came only to see what new fashions he had, and to blame him for suing Mr. P. His reply was, that Mr. P. was not punctual; that punctuality was the life of trade, and that where a tradesman failed in it, they had always recourse to obligatory means; but that he should not have served *her* so; and as a proof, that her credit was good with him, his whole warehouse was at her service. “I believe,” said Mrs. Baddeley, “the best way is never
 “to put one’s-self in your power, and
 “therefore, in future, I shall think
 “twice, before I make any purchase.”

We next went to see Mr. P. and told him what a reprimand Mr. King had received from us, for which he thanked

us.

us. Mr. P. lived in the stile of a man of fashion, and we were entertained, though in the morning, with chocolate, cake, wine, liqueurs, &c. and all elegantly served. On our return, a man in a handsome livery, dressed like a chair-man, brought a letter and enquired for the lady of the house, to whom he was directed to deliver it. Having ordered him in, he took out a paper, and said he was a Sheriff's-officer, and had a writ against me. I begged to see it, and found it was against Mrs. Baddeley, for eighteen pounds, for work done by a smith at Hammer-smith; I did not, however, say he was wrong in his application, and he asked me what I pleased to do in it. I told him I had never seen the bill, and of course could say

say nothing to it; he then produced the bill, eighteen pounds eleven shillings and four-pence, which I paid him, and he demanded two guineas for the costs; I asked him for what; he replied, "The writ is one guinea, before it is served, and we generally have another guinea by way of compliment, if we behave well; and you see, Madam, I came here as privately as I could, and you may depend on it, no one shall know any thing about it." "Well," said I, "for your civil intention, there is two guineas for you; but take notice, it is a present, because I believe you meant well." He then told me it was his due, and on my asking for a receipt, said, he must search the office for it. I replied, he
might

might save himself that trouble, for my name was Steele and not Baddeley. When he found this, he altered his tone, said he was much obliged to me, considered it as a gift, and would be ever grateful; and should he ever have a writ, against either me or Mrs. Baddeley, he would never detain us a minute. I made him sit down in an inner-room, sent him some cold ham and chicken, and a glass or two of madeira, and he went away pleased. This man's name was Kennedy, and, to do him justice, he was true to his promise; and though he had afterwards many writs against Mrs. Baddeley, he only called and left his name, without mentioning any particulars, and was always well paid for his civility. When I acquainted Mrs. Baddeley

deley

deley with this transaction, she trembled, but said, as it was a just debt, and she was glad it was paid and that the man deserved more than two guineas. “ I
 “ shall now,” said she, “ be afraid of
 “ every one that comes to the house,
 “ and shall think them all Sheriff’s-
 “ officers and Bailiffs. However, be
 “ what they will, I will see them my-
 “ self, for I can never think, my dear
 “ Steele, of suffering you to stand in
 “ my shoes, and receive my affronts.”

I told her, there was little fear of such things, except it was for trifles ; as Mr. P. had answered for all the large debts ; but she afterwards had a fear about her ; for at every knock at the door, she seemed alarmed, and started up, and used to say, if she was arrested, she

should sink to the ground, and die that instant. Lord Coleraine sent his servant with a letter, but it was returned unopened. Mr. Conway called, and said, her friends were all in an uproar at our absence; some said we were gone to France, and others to other places, but Lord Coleraine had been up and down the country like a mad-man. We did not tell him, nor any one where we had been, but said, we had been on a frolick, and that the matter was a secret; she, however, let him into the circumstance of her having been with Lord Coleraine, and told him how he had used her, and shewed him her arms, which were still black. He called him a villain, and declared that if she would permit her friends to resent it for her, he

he would be the first to call him out. She thanked him for his good wishes, and friendly attention, but intreated him not to think of it; for he was a man not worth any gentleman's notice.

In the close of the evening, Mrs. Baddeley's favourite cat was missing; frightened away, as was supposed, by Mr. Conway's dog; and when the streets were quiet, about twelve at night, we had to look for her: we walked along the pavement, and called her at the areas of every house in the neighbourhood. Whilst we were thus employed, a gentleman past by in regimentals, and said, "Ladies, I saw a cat at the corner house." "Pray sir," said Mrs. Baddeley, "shew us where:" he

did, and it was her cat. The gentleman got over the rails and took it up; and so great was her joy, that she thanked him a thousand times. He begged leave to carry it home, and when we got to our door, we could do no less than ask him in. He came in, and when he found it was Mrs. Baddeley, with whom he was, he kissed the cat, said it was a fortunate event for him, for he had long wished to be in Mrs. Baddeley's company, and now it was brought about. This gentleman's name was Morgan, and on his leaving us, wished he might be permitted to pay his respects to us, at some other time. He was a well-behaved man, and by this strange piece of business of the cat, by coming to our house, he got himself
a wife,

a wife, with a fortune more than twenty thousand pounds, as shall be shewn hereafter. He was not remiss in his attention to Mrs Baddeley, in whose heart he gained some footing: he was a constant visitor, but did not assume any airs on account of the confidence she placed in him, but always held himself under an obligation, for the reception he met with. If we were at home, it was well; if not he left his compliments like a gentleman, and never asked a question.

We began now to think of Lord Melbourne, and were anxious to know what he meant to do. Mrs. Baddeley proposed going to the play, in hopes of seeing him, but was disappointed; how-

ever, she was spoke to there by the foreign ministers, one after the other, and welcomed on her return to town. Lord Falmouth also, the Duke of Manchester, and others addressed her, and were very lavish in their compliments; and, if possible, more notice was taken of her than she ever experienced before. She was handed to her carriage by Lord Cholmondley, and I, by the Honourable Mr. Dillon. On our return home, we found Mr. P. waiting, to whom I told the story of the arrest, and how I had acted. He thought it would be proper, to send shortly for Lord Melbourne, but Mrs. Baddeley wished to see him first by accident, and said she went to the play with that view. Mr. P. said his Lordship was in town, having met his coachman

man that day, and asked him. “ And
“ the more ungrateful,” said Mrs. Bad-
deley, “ he is for being in town, and
“ not enquiring after me; but ’tis the
“ same with all men, from the highest
“ to the lowest. In order to obtain
“ their wishes, they will tell us weak
“ women ten thousand lies, and when
“ they grow tired of us, (as they soon
“ do,) will desert us, in search of some
“ new object. If a woman covets the
“ affection of a man, she must keep
“ him as distant as the servant she
“ pays. In this case, he will court her
“ attention, and do all in his power to
“ obtain it; but, no sooner does he
“ know, that the object of his choice
“ has an affection for him, than he will
“ presume upon it, and proceed from
“ one

“ one liberty to another; (which young
“ unexperienced minds think no harm
“ in ;) till, by degrees, he obtains what
“ he had in view; and will then, ingrate
“ like, desert the deluded female, and
“ leave her to her bitter reflections.”

Mr. P. said she judged hardly of the sex,
and hoped she had not *always* found it
so. “ What do you think sir,” said she,
“ of Lord Melbourne’s behaviour, af-
“ ter the many oaths and protestations
“ he has made me? Could any one
“ suppose, that after having led me by
“ his bounty and the expectations he
“ had taught me to form, into expences
“ which I cannot answer, he could
“ flight me as he does? Such behavi-
“ our is wicked. If he loved me, as he
“ has often swore he does, he would
“ not

“ not treat me thus. If I have done any
“ thing to offend him, he ought to
“ leave me like a gentleman, not in-
“ volved as I am, but free from debt
“ and embarrassment. My going to
“ Ireland, can be no plea for his con-
“ duct; for he has never given me a
“ guinea for these nine months past.”
I joined with her in this opinion, for his
Lordship failed in his word to me; did
not make me the settlement he pro-
mised; did not pay my rent as he
agreed to do; nor give me a shilling of
what Mrs. Baddeley owed me, though
he often assured me he would pay the
whole; nor did I ever receive a present
from him, except the horse I have be-
fore mentioned.

Mrs.

Mrs. Baddeley, finding she could not see Lord Melbourne in public, sent to Mr. P. and told him, if he thought proper, he might wait on his Lordship. He went and saw Lord Melbourne, who told him, that he knew well she was in town, and was sorry her affairs required any application to him; that he had made up his mind on the occasion, and would not stir in them at all, nor would he advance one guinea upon the occasion. Mr. P. told him, that it was on the strength of his Lordship's promise, that he had embarked in her affairs, and paid so much money; conceiving his Lordship would repay him. Lord Melbourne said, he was sorry for that, but as he had acted, without any authority from him, he did not hold himself responsible;

sponsible, nor would he advance her any more money. "I now see," added his Lordship, "the impropriety of my
"conduct with Mrs. Baddeley, and I
"have done with her." Mr. P. replied, that as his Lordship's lavish bounty to her, had taught her to form expectations she never dreamt of, and had, of course, led her into expences that otherwise she would never have thought of; it was but justice, if he left her, to extricate her from those debts, that would otherwise be her ruin. Lord Melbourne returned, that was not *his* look-out; he had made his determination, which he did not mean to recede from, and that he would attend to no further application from her, either through him, or by any letter, message,
or

or friend. “You will please, Sir, to
“mention this to her,” added he, “and
“I wish you a good morning.”

On his communicating this to Mrs. Baddeley, she said, she did not believe after all, that he would have acted so; however, she would not make herself unhappy, but endeavour to pay Mr. P. by some other mode. Mr. P. then took his leave, said he had some disagreeable business to settle that day, and was in hopes of getting some money of Lord Melbourne, to have enabled him to have done it as he wished. I told him, I had the two hundred pounds untouched, which he gave me, and if that would be of any use, he might have it. He replied, it certainly would be of use, but
he

he feared that it would leave us without money. However, if I could spare one hundred and fifty pounds of it, he would take it; as he had one debt of Mrs. Baddeley's to pay that afternoon, or the law would run on to a great expence; "But," added he, "with this
"one hundred and fifty pounds, and
"what I have at home, I can contrive
"to pay it." This made us a little uneasy, for he plainly told us, that money must be got for him, some way or other, or he should be a ruined man. When he was gone, we consulted which was the best way to raise him some money, till things took a turn, and concluded, the readiest mode would be to borrow it on the diamonds, and to pledge as many as would fetch six hundred

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dred pounds, the following then, were the articles we fixed on, to help us to this money.

	£.	s.
Two diamond necklaces, which cost	1050	0
A pair of drop brilliant ear-rings, do.	350	0
Ditto, rose diamond ones, ditto	100	0
Six pins, at 20l. each, ditto	120	0
A star, ditto	94	10
Three diamond rings, ditto	100	0
	1814	10

All the above articles, which cost more than eighteen hundred pounds, were pledged at a pawn-broker's, and it was with difficulty I could persuade him to lend six hundred upon them, for the loan of which he was to have one hundred and eighty pounds a year; and,

as

as people of this profession seldom lend more than a third of the value upon goods they take in, their risk is little or none. It is thus they get rich, at the expence of the distresses of others; and as property so pledged, is seldom redeemed, it generally falls to the lot of the pawn-broker, who, after a certain period, can sell it; and though the law obliges him to give the balance of the money it fetches, deducting principal and interest, to the owner; yet it is seldom enquired after.

Having this six hundred pounds, we sent for Mr. P. and asked him how much money would make matters easy at present; he said, seven hundred pounds, with this he could settle with

some; and the law expences attending the rest, would not be much, before we might have it in our power to give him more. He was sorry, he owned, to be so troublesome to us, but he was at that juncture so much embarrassed, that he was almost distracted. We begged him not to be unhappy, that we had six hundred pounds ready for him, and the same way we got him that, we could get him a hundred more. He seemed pleased with this, and said, if it was not impertinent and a secret, he should like to know where we got it. Mrs. Baddeley told him, that, as she was very unhappy to find him distressed on her account, she had pledged some of her diamonds to procure it. He expressed a concern for this, but hoped she would soon have it

it

it in her power to redeem them. *That*, she replied, would not trouble her, her chief anxiety was to do justice by him ; for, that she could not endure the thought of his suffering for the kindness he had shewn to her. Mr. P. said, this sum would save him from ruin, for he now could manage for some time ; acknowledged it as a favour done him, and bade us be happy, and keep up our spirits, and fear no one ; for he would stand by us, and we might rely on him.

This arrangement set our minds at ease for some time ; and as a masquerade was to be at Carlisle-house in a few days, we proposed to go to it. Mrs. Baddeley's dress was that of a shepherdess ;

mine, a domino, with a man's hat and feather. She determined to keep her mask on the whole evening, and should she see Lord Melbourne, to attack him. The rooms were crowded, and Mrs. Baddeley not known. She presently discovered Lord Melbourne, sitting down with a female, who had lived with him before he was married; her name was Harriet Powel; though from him she called herself Harriet Lamb, and enjoyed a settlement. He seemed in close conversation with her for some time. Mrs. Baddeley sat down at a little distance from them, unnoticed, but could not hear any of their conversation. At last, Harriet Powel left him, and Mrs. Baddeley got nearer to him, but did not say a word, till she was within reach, when

when she caught hold of his arm, with
 “ Ah, rebel ! Have I caught thee ? ” —
 “ My God ! ” said his Lordship, “ Is
 “ it possible ? What, Mrs. Baddeley ! ”
 “ Yes, ” returned she, “ it is even her. ”
 He requested that she would not un-
 mask, that he might have some conver-
 sation with her. He then asked how she
 came to send Mr. P. to him, to draw
 him into promises. She replied, she
 did no more than she thought right.
 “ You may possibly think so, ” return-
 ed he, “ but I think differently. ” He
 then enquired how she had been enter-
 tained in her excursion, and whether
 she had met with the man of her heart.
 “ That’s not a question, my Lord, ”
 said Mrs. Baddeley, “ after your neglect
 “ of me, that you have any right to
 “ ask,

“ask. You have not acted by me as
“I deserve, and I find a pleasure in
“telling you so.” He said, it was *her*
fault, not his, that he deserted her; for,
had she not gone away, he should
not have thought of it. This she de-
nied; said, she had before made him
acquainted with her situation, and that
he had promised her, time after time,
to relieve her, but had not kept his
word; and, that owing to his being so
long in the country, had it not been for
the kindness of Mr. P. she might have
been in a jail; and, that that kindness
had nearly ruined him. “Well,” said
his Lordship, “if it had, he would
“not be the first man, nor the last,
“that had ruined, or would ruin him-
“self for a fine woman.” That his
own

own fortune was considerably injured, and that he did not know whether it would enable him to pay so large a sum as her debts amounted to; that, she should have retracted her extravagance, and not run on as she had done; for, that she had nearly ruined him; “How-
“ever,” continued he, “I am unwilling to leave you in distress, and will
“see how far it is in my power to be
“of service to you, and will call at
“your house in a few days for that
“purpose.” Mrs. Baddeley, requested him not to mislead her any longer, for that his promises, unless he meant to keep them, might betray her into more difficulties. He then said, he would not believe that she would have gone off as she did; that she had never pressed
him

him for money, and did not suppose she was in any great want of it. She replied, his Lordship's bounty had always placed her beyond the necessity of applying to him for money; and, that she was unwilling to tease him, and concluded, when it was convenient to him, he would supply her unasked. He seemed indifferent to all this, but assured her, he would see her in a day or two, and begged her to leave him, least he should be known. "So," said he, "God bless you;" and she left him. When she returned to me, and told me what passed, she said, "You see how
"deceitful man is to the last: he seems
"to have taken up again with his old
"flame, and though he has promised to
"call on me, I do not expect to see
"him.

“ him. However, if I was out of
 “ debt, his loss would not be great;
 “ for, as a married man, I had always a
 “ weight upon my spirits, whenever he
 “ was with me; had he been single, I
 “ should have loved him dearly, and
 “ consequently this treatment of me
 “ would have broken my heart; so
 “ that, perhaps, all things considered,
 “ it may be as well as it is.”

When we sat down in the supper-room, a young lady, like a milliner, was very attentive to me, and said, she had some things to sell to my shepherds, after supper. A certain married lady, who sat by us at supper-time, was very busy, with her hands under the table, with one of the foreign Ministers, he

he who was lame in one foot. He suffered this lady to do as she pleased with him, so as to make herself happy ; but, she did no more than her Lord had often done with Mrs. Baddeley, at our house ; so, it was no more than retaliation. This family does not live a hundred yards from Berkeley-square, and have now a fine son and heir to their estate. We also saw a lady, esteemed by all the men and women of strict virtue, who, in a mask, would accept of offers not becoming her, when she thought herself not known. The lady I allude to, is a woman of fashion, remarked for her beauty in all the print-shops, and a trifling accident that happened at a ball, at Lord Coventry's, that was hushed up, whilst she was dancing. She
being

being a maiden lady of repute, I will say no more of her than, that we have a noble General of her name, frequently attending his Majesty's person. This Lady, however, was not at that time a beauty without art; Mr. Warren's shop having received many a guinea for an ounce of pearl-powder, and five shillings for a small bottle of milk of roses, which added to her complexion. At the sight of these things, Mrs. Baddeley, (who never used any cosmetic) asked me, what I thought of our ladies of fashion, who ought to be a pattern to their sex. My reply was, if their example was followed, the inferior part of the sex would be much worse than they are; for many in low stations of life, who fall into errors, do it from distress;

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whereas, these do it from inclination and depravity.

The milliner came hovering round us the whole evening, and we suspected that we were known to her. Lord Palmerston also took a seat near us; and, from a conversation we over-heard, found an intrigue was to take place, between him and a Lady near his own house, and an assignation made for that purpose. These may be deemed scandalous anecdotes, but they are traits of the fashionable world, and the bad effects of masquerades. This milliner, we afterwards found, was Mr. Mills, the second son of the Dean of Exeter, who found us out, and was afterwards a constant visitor at our house. Mrs.

Baddeley

Baddeley was so warm, that she found it necessary at one time to slip off her mask, for a moment or two, and at this instant, she was addressed by Mr. D. Smith, a timber-merchant, near Westminster-bridge, and could not get rid of him, without consenting to his waiting on us, in Grafton-street. He was a fashionable young man, who was frequently with us afterwards, and made strong love to Mrs. Baddeley; but, she returned it with little more than common civility.

The next day Mr. Damer called, and said, an odd incident happened at this masquerade. Lord and Lady North were there, and her Ladyship talking unmasked, with a friend, a gentleman

observed to Lord North, who was masked, at the other end of the room, and to whom he was a stranger, that the fat lady who was talking, was Lady North, and wondered what his Lordship could see in her ugly face, to marry her. His Lordship replied, that beauty did not always shew itself in the face; the beauties of the mind, are what some men most admire; and then got up and walked away, and went and sat down by his lady, which convinced the gentleman, that the person he had been talking to, was no other than Lord North himself; and how absurd it is, for people to speak so unguardedly in strange company. “But he might have said more,” continued Mr. Damer, “and not found himself affronted, for
“ Lord

“Lord North is so good-humoured a
 “man, and of a temper so pleasant, that
 “few things will affront him.” He was
 once in a similar situation in the drawing-
 room. The Queen was speaking to Lady
 North, and a country gentleman, who
 came to Court one day to amuse him-
 self, asked a person standing near him,
 who that lady was; he replied, “Lady
 “North.” The gentleman remarked to
 him, that she was a very ordinary wo-
 man; the other replied, (and this other
 was no other than Lord North himself,)
 “Yes, Sir, we are reckoned the most
 “homely couple that frequent the draw-
 “ing-room.” Mr. Damer was one of the
 best hearted young gentlemen I had the
 honour of knowing; and was always a
 friend to the distressed. I had a proof

of it this day ; telling him I had a poor man's child, that I wished to serve, and that his friends wanted him to be in some stable ; and asked him whether he could make room for him in his. He replied, that stables taught nothing but vice ; that if his friends were poor and could not do better, he would give him ten pounds, to put him out to some trade. He gave me this money, the boy was put out apprentice with it, and he is now in business for himself, in a good way ; and has reason to bless Mr. Damer's memory for his bounty.

Mr. Damer was no sooner gone, than in came our cupboard gentleman, the Neapolitan Minister, in high spirits, and kept us laughing for an hour. He said,
he

he was looking for a wife, and believed he must do as Sir Patrick Blake did, who, though not a rich man, was a spirited one, and so determined to make his fortune, that he would go to some foreign country, and try to get a rich wife. For this purpose he took himself to the West-Indies, and hearing of a young handsome widow, went to the lady's house, and enquired for her, and no sooner did he see her, than he swore he loved her to distraction, and have her for his wife, he must and would. She declared she would not have him, and bad him leave her; but he persisted in his attack, ordered his baggage to be brought, and his hammock flung in her house, and swore he would never quit it any more. The lady was
in

in such a rage, that she vowed she never would have him, and to convince him of it, took up a bible, and protested by that good book, that she never would marry him. “Now Madam,” cried Sir Paddy, “by Jafus, I am sure of “you; for what a woman swears she “will do, she never does; and of course, “what she swears she never will do, “she is sure to do.” And as he foretold, so it came to pass; for he married this lady, and she is now in England.

At this time, a young gentleman, whose name was Corbet, and who was afterwards married to a daughter of the Earl of Bute, introduced himself to the knowledge of Mrs. Baddeley, and endeavoured to ingratiate himself, by intimating,

estimating, that he was admitted to the favours of Mrs. Hobart, wife of the Honourable George Hobart, which did him little credit with us, from a knowledge that no part of that lady's conduct deserved reprehension, or ought to be lightly spoken of. He would fain have been received, among the list of those favourites, whom Mrs. Baddeley would occasionally indulge with a private *tête-à-tête*; but he did not seem to fall in with her ideas, and therefore soon received his final answer. Mr. Vaughan, of Golden-grove, Dorking, importuned, by letter, for the same favours, and met with a like repulse, being a married man, and as such, not suitable to her inclinations. He was followed by a Mr. Sheldon, a young gentleman who
lived

lived in Berkeley-square, who, from some personal accomplishments, and an engaging address, obtained her favour, and it was not without some trouble, that I got rid of him. Her going out of town put an end to their acquaintance, which was of short continuance.

Her next admirer was a Mr. Gibbs, a silk-mercier, in partnership with Carr and Ibbetson, on Ludgate-hill. This person introduced himself to her, as silk-mercier to Her Majesty, and having it in his power to shew her such new fashions as no house in London could boast of. She told him, she dealt wholly with Mr. King. *That* he well knew, he said, but he wished to serve her only in part, and would give her
what

what credit she pleased. He was so importunate to serve her, that she said he might send her one or two of his newest fashions. He sent her several and attended with them himself. She agreed for as much as would make her two dresses. When his servant was gone, he told her they were paid for, as he begged her acceptance of them. She replied, that she would not keep them on any such terms. It signified little, for he left them; and this present enabled him to call often, and it was followed with other presents afterwards; and from a continuance of his kindness, she frequently received him. In short, her new acquaintances, with the old, made the visitors at our house so tiresome, that it was enough for one person to do, to attend

tend at the door; for it having got abroad, that Lord Melbourne had dropped his connexions with her, numerous were the applications to succeed him; but she was denied to all, except the Duke of Queensberry, Lord Palmerstone, Lord Pigot, Sir Thomas Mills, Mr. Damer, and a few others. Lord Pigot continued a valuable friend to her, till his unfortunate departure to the East-Indies, from which he never returned. The Duke of Queensberry, was never very lavish in his presents to her, but always behaved with the politest attention, and greatest respect. At one time he advanced her forty pounds, on account of a law-suit, in which she was engaged; but this was all the money she ever had of him, though he
may

may be reckoned among the list of those that shared her best favours.

Lord Delaval, was the next that made a proposal. He could not boast, he said, of the first fortune in life, nor of so elevated a situation, as he could wish; but, he was ready to exert his utmost power to serve her, if she wanted it. This gentleman had a lady and five children, and as such was inadmissible. She experienced his friendship however, for some time afterwards, but he met with no other reward than her thanks, as will be shewn hereafter.

Mrs. Baddeley not having been in the receipt of any money, for some time past, and her expences daily running

Vo L. V. P on,

on, Mr. P. still paying, and accountable for all, it obliged him to be more importunate for money than he had yet been. Of course to decrease our expediture, I requested her to consent to my letting the house at Hammer-smith, and lessening our expences in Grafton-street. She was totally averse to this, and Mr. P. was of her way of thinking; that it would be betraying to the world a fall-in off, and tend to her discredit. She was always of opinion, that something would turn up unexpectedly to put her in cash, and it was folly to despond. This very expectation added to my uneasiness, being persuaded if money *did* come, it would come in a way that I should not like. Mr. P. however, could not wait under the same expectations; money

money he must have, and she was obliged to draw upon the pawn-broker for more cash. The remainder of her diamonds were pledged, and five hundred and fifty pounds borrowed on them. Mr. P. was made acquainted how the money was got, and he took it as before, saying only, he hoped she would soon be able to redeem them. Lord Melbourne never called or sent, and though Mrs. Baddeley frequently met him at public places, she was never noticed by him, but with a bow of respect, nor did he advance her a guinea afterwards; but to Stephen Sayer, Esq. Sheriff of London, in 1773, which I shall fully set forth, when I come to speak of his introduction; with a history of his bank-notes, and his ill wishes

to the present Royal Family, as his letter, &c. that will be introduced in the course of this work, will amply shew; also some account of his commitment to the Tower, where he was forbidden the use of pen, ink, and paper, and the manner in which he was furnished with the same, and his mode of conveying his letters where he pleased. This I, myself, made Lord North acquainted with, at the time Mr. Laurens was in the Tower, under the same prohibitions; lest he should be accommodated with those materials, to the injury of the state; and I received his Lordship's thanks on the occasion.

Mrs. Baddeley being now detached from any favourite, or any obligatory connexion,

connexion, I thought it a good time to advise her to live by her own industry, and follow her profession; but she would not listen to it: the stage she detested, and would sooner die, she said, than return to it again; but, if I would go abroad with her, she would try her fortune in a strange country. I begged to know on what plan she meant to proceed; she replied, she would get together what money she could, and go to the East-Indies; where probably some rich man might take a fancy to her, and marry her; but, that till I was paid every shilling that was due to me, she would give her hand to no man. She said, she was tired of this country, and her wish was to leave it; for, as her father and mother were dead, every at-

tachment to her native place was broken. Whilst her mother lived, she allowed her, as I have before observed, three guineas a week, and Mrs. Snow deserved it at her hands ; for, she was a good christian, a fond parent, and a sincere friend. In answer to her plan of going abroad, I urged a great deal on it's uncertainty ; that had we money enough to trade on, and she was disposed to follow some occupation, it might require a consideration ; but that, in the present state of things, it was absurd to bestow a thought on it : that I had a family to think of ; and though, from my affection to her, I had a great deal neglected them, yet, whilst I was in England, I could occasionally see them, and do something for them ; but that if there could

could be any channel of certainty proposed, I would not refuse going to the East-Indies with her, or to any other part of the globe. “Well then,” returned she, “let us share our fate together, “and stay where we are. As to the “men, I have been deceived by them, “and will endeavour to be even with “them, some way or other.” I then urged again a less expensive establishment, and a more confined way of living. This she would not hear of; for, said she, “Lessen my consequence, and “it is all over with me. I will pursue “my pleasures, and look out for some “new friend.” This I observed was still going on wrong. “No,” replied she, “it cannot be wrong, where it has “a good end in view. Do you think, “my

“ my dear Steele, I am totally void of
“ feeling? Can I obliterate from my
“ remembrance, and from my heart,
“ what you have done for me, and how
“ much I am bound in justice, both to
[“ you and your’s?” I intreated her, for
the present, to think only for herself, and
not to suffer me or mine to give her
any pain; that I could go into some way
of business, that would maintain both
her and me comfortably, and I had no
objections to make the attempt; that
whatever I embarked in, should be in
my name, and she should live like a
gentlewoman; that if it was necessary, I
would work night and day for her, and
she should enjoy half the profits of my
industry: she said, she would sooner do
this, than go on the stage any more;
but

but that it would be a dreadful sound to her, to hear it said, "Poor Baddeley is
" at last fallen from all her pomp and
" splendor into a shop!" I told her my plan was not a mean one; but, as we had many friends, to open some warehouse, on a respectable footing, and that she need not appear in it; and that I was persuaded, she would experience more real happiness in one month, in this honest way of getting a living, than in all the splendor she had enjoyed. She promised to consider of it, and said, it was time enough to do this, when all other resources failed; she would first try whether some more eligible thing would not occur. I gave her to understand, that I was very serious in the plan I proposed, and wished it from my soul; for, that

that I was heartily tired of her present way of life, and she ought to be so too. "True," replied she, "but yet I cannot consent to give up all my pleasures in the prime of my life; I must enjoy their sweets a little longer." Then, from a cast of despondency, she rose into an uncommon flow of spirits, said, she would dress for the opera, and whilst the hair-dresser was fetching, she would sing me a song, and warbled forth the following.

Alas! 'Tis in vain my distress to dissemble!

I wish for to go, yet in going I tremble,

No friend to support me, no pilot but you.

No friend, &c.

Whilst singing this song, she took me in her arms, hung round my neck, and cried;

cried ; and I sympathized with her, and told her, if she would confide in me for her pilot, I would soon steer her into a safe harbour, in which she might lay snug and secure from the dangers of a stormy world. The hair-dresser came, and put an end to our conversation. This kind of gentry, having access to the ladies, frequently hear things in one house, which they carry to another. Ladies are too apt to converse with these fellows, and ask questions ; and, for every piece of intelligence they communicate, they are rewarded with news in return ; so, that many women are as much diverted with their slander, as embellished by their art. This hair-dresser dressed many at the theatre, and used to entertain us with the scandal
of

of the green-room. “ There was a
“ strange piece of work,” said he, “ la-
“ dies, at the play-house, last night,
“ whilst I was dressing Mrs. Abington.
“ Mrs. Scott, the wife of Lord Delo-
“ raine’s brother, fell into fits, because
“ Mr. Brereton took more than uncom-
“ mon notice of Miss Hopkins,” (to
whom he is since married) “ and no-
“ thing could recover the dying nymph,
“ but the sweet odour of her Florizel’s
“ breath, and a gill glass of brandy.”
Whilst we were laughing at this story,
a man came to speak to Mrs. Badde-
ley, and said he must see her ; it was in
vain, therefore, to deny her, for he had
business of some consequence to impart,
I went down to the man, who addressed
me with, “ I have a writ against you,
“ Madam,

“Madam, for a debt to a linen-dra-
 “per.” I desired to see the writ, and
 saw it was against Mrs. Baddeley.—
 “Why did not the man send me his
 “bill?” said I. “That, Madam,” re-
 plied he, “is *your* look-out, not *mine*.
 “Come, you must go with me; I have
 “a coach for you, and my men are in
 “waiting.” “If I pay you the money,”
 said I, “have you any further demand?”
 “Paying the money,” returned he,
 “will not do, there are three actions
 “more out against you, and you must
 “go with me.” Hearing this, I thought
 it best, in order to get him out of the
 house, to go with him. Accordingly I
 called for my cloak and bonnet, and
 ordered my maid to bring them, who I
 knew would understand me. “Tell
 Vol. V. Q “my

“ my daughter,” said I, “ I am gone
“ to settle a little matter, for which I
“ am arrested ; that I am going to
“ Mr. P’s. and shall be back in two
“ hours.” When I was in the coach,
I requested the officer to send away his
man, and to take me to Mr. P. which
with the promise of a guinea, I prevail-
ed on him to do. We found him at
home ; I winked at him, and said,
“ This man, Sir, has arrested me for a
“ debt of fifty pounds, due to a linen-
“ draper, in Fleet-street ; and tells me,
“ there are three writs more against me,
“ and that I must go to his house.” He
asked the officer at whose suit those three
writs were ; but he could not inform
him ; for he believed it was a dead set
against Mrs. Baddeley, and asked Mr. P.
how

how he meant to act. "I shall bail
 "them all," said he. "You cannot,"
 replied the officer, "till I know the
 "amount of the actions. Give me the
 "name of the bail, and come to my
 "house, where you will find the lady,
 "and I will then search the office."
 Mr. P. begged him to leave me with his
 wife, but he furly refused, saying, he
 had business at home, and must go, and
 that I must go with him; "And don't
 "think," addressing himself to Mr. P.
 "that you will bail it so easily, for I tell
 "you again, it is a *dead set*: therefore,
 "Madam," added he to me, "you
 "must make yourself happy at my
 "house. It is three weeks to term, and
 "in that time you may look about
 "you." I asked him, what he meant

by a *dead set*? He told me, that by that term, he meant, that all my creditors were determined to come upon me, and as soon as he had me in custody; that he learned this from the linen-draper, who said, the nobility, when once he had got hold of me, would pay like wild-fire, and, that he should be well rewarded for his pains; so that I need not be afraid of a jail. “I
 “take many hundreds,” said he, “in
 “the course of my business, and few
 “go to jail; for I always stand their
 “friend, and will your’s; for, as soon
 “as you are at my house, I will go
 “round among your creditors, and see
 “if I cannot make matters up.”—
 “Why,”—said Mr. P. “what a pretty
 “rascal you are! After you have got
 “an

“ an unhappy person in your custody ;
 “ under a pretence of making matters
 “ up, you go round among his credi-
 “ tors, and seek for fresh detainers.—
 “ There is the guinea the lady promised
 “ you, but get out of my house this
 “ moment, or I’ll play the devil with
 “ you ; for you have no business with
 “ this lady, and she shall not go with
 “ you.” The fellow replied, d—n
 the guinea, he did not value it ; if the
 lady would not go with good will, he
 would make her go. I then told him,
 my name was not *Baddeley*, but *Steele* ;
 that Mrs. Baddeley was in Ireland, and
 that I would not go with him. His an-
 swer was, “ None of your geers, Ma-
 “ dam ; I am not to be humbugged,
 “ and must be more satisfied, before I

“let you go.” I asked him what satisfaction he wished for. He said, to go with him to the plaintiff, and if he was content to let me go, he would have no objections; but, that he would not release me on any other terms. Mr. P. said, “If you will not believe me, friend, on the word of a man of honour, you must take the consequences; and, if you are obstinate, this affair will end in your ruin; for, before you shall take her away, you shall have my life. Mrs. Steele came with you, in order to learn what writs you had out against Mrs Baddeley. Mrs. Steele is as well known in this street as I am; go to Dr. Fordyce’s, and bring any one of the family here, and you will soon be convinced.” Whilst

we

we were talking, Sir John Eliot passed by; I called him in, and the first words he said, were, "My dear Mrs. Steele, "how do you do? Is Mrs. Baddeley "returned from Ireland?" He asked me a few more questions, said he was in haste, wished me a good morning, and took his leave. When he was gone, the officer said, "Now, Madam, "I am convinced; I am sensible of "my mistake, and beg your pardon: "had you told me your name was not "*Baddeley*, when I was at your house, "it would have saved yourself a great "deal of trouble, and me much time; "for loss of time is to me an injury. "You may rely on what I say, that "there is a plot against Mrs. Baddeley, "and happy for her that she is in Ire-
"land."

“land.” We let him go off, and took a coach home, fearful any other writ might be served upon her. In our way, Mr. P. said, “Some of her creditors, who arrested me, are now going to do the same by her, and therefore, for her safety, it is necessary that you should take her, for a few days, out of town.”

I told him, I could take her to my house near Henley, and say we were going to Portsmouth. He advised this measure, and said, as soon as his friend, in the Sheriff's-office, let him know what writs were out against her, he would endeavour to fettle them. When we reached home, we ordered the door not to be opened to any one; but, to answer persons, who knocked, from the area. Mrs. Baddeley was so terrified at
what

what we told her, and at the apprehension of future writs, that she was eager to go away. Mr. P. said, if she was out of town, a few days might settle every thing. It was agreed, that she should go in a hackney-coach to the New Inn, Westminster-bridge, where we should take a post-chaise for Henley. Mr. P. fetched the coach himself, that he might see no person was about; we all got into it, and by way of blind, ordered the coachman to drive to Marybone, for our servants knew nothing of the plan. As soon as he got into Bond-street, he ordered the man to drive to Westminster-bridge. Mr. P. now left us, but advised me not to return for a day or two, that it might not be suspected, that Mrs. Baddeley was near
London,

London, least they should trace her out; and said he would go back to my house and tell my servants that I should not be home that night. It was eight at night when we left London, yet we reached my house at Henley at one in the morning, though it was thirty-five miles from town. Here we found Mr. Gill, who was constantly backwards and forwards between that and Oxford, enquiring for letters, and bringing others; for, though I have not mentioned his name lately, he was like a mad-man about her, and had been answered and kept easy by letters, messages, and other means; for she had not as yet declared her intention not to marry him, determining to wean him from the thoughts of it by degrees. He was in bed and asleep, when

we

we arrived, and did not hear us; and, when he waked in the morning, and was informed of Mrs. Baddeley's being there, he was in transports of joy. She was happy to see him, and this accidental interview renewed in her mind, what she had almost forgotten; for she had not even mentioned his name for a length of time. She observed to me, that he looked as handsome as an angel. I was sorry for this, as from one evil, we fell into another. No two on earth seemed more happy that day, than did he and she. He did not upbraid her with any neglect, but all was right and well with him. I staid the next night with her, and ordered her to act prudently with Mr. Gill, in my absence. She assured me she would; but said, his being there would

would be a great comfort, when I was gone. In the morning, I set off on my return, and when I got home, was told the man who had been with me two days before, (this was the bailiff) had been there, and said, he must see Mrs. Baddeley, and absolutely ran all over the house, and behaved very impudently. I told my servants, it was of little consequence, and did not wish to hear more about him; for, that he had no business there. I then said, I would now settle with them. They were panic-struck at this, and hoped I was not going to discharge them. I told them, I meant no such thing; but, as I owed them three months wages, I chose to pay them: for, it is always prudent not to be in their debt, and to keep them

them at a proper distance. This is the only way to command respect. I sent for Mr. P. and consulted with him. He told me, he had searched the office, and found there were three writs out, besides the linen-draper's, and it was the best way now to bail them, and thus gain time to pay them. I requested him to do it, and he promised me he would as soon as possible. He recommended it, that Mrs. Baddeley should write to some of her friends, and try if she could not get some money. I said, she might, if she would; but I knew she had such a spirit, that it would be some trouble to persuade her to it. He said, Lord Melbourne was not a man of honour, to act as he did; and, as to Lord Coleraine, he ought to be post-

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ed. I told him, I should want money in a few days, to which he replied, I might have some now, if I pleased, for he had fifty pounds about him, and it was at my command, and more if I would have it. I took the fifty pounds, and said, that would answer all my present purposes. Whilst we were in conversation, the officer came again, and I begged Mr. P. to see him with me, that we might hear what he had to say. The man was admitted, and said, he wanted to see Mrs. Baddeley. "For shame," said Mr. P. to him, "how could you run over the house as you did the other day? Mrs. Baddeley is not here, and if she had been, you ought not to have done as you did." He replied, that if he could not see Mrs. Baddeley,

Baddeley, he was authorized, by the plaintiff, to tell Mrs. Steele; that if she would give him her note for the amount of the debt and cost at one month, he would drop the action against Mrs. Baddeley. "No," said Mr. P. without waiting for my answer, "if he will take her note at two months, I dare say she will give it, but not else." "And why my note," said I, "as Mrs. Baddeley, at that time, will pay it herself?" The plaintiff, he returned, would not be satisfied, unless I joined in the note, as a further security. "However," added he, "if you will give me two guineas, I will take your single note at two months, and give Mrs. Baddeley a discharge." I agreed to this, and gave him my note, and

away he went. Mr. P. said, this was better than bailing the action, as it was attended with less trouble and less expence ; “ but,” continued he, “ you
“ must prepare to pay it when due.
“ Others of your creditors would be
“ glad to settle their demands in the same
“ way ; but I would not advise you to
“ give your notes to any, but those
“ whom I shall point out ; for such acts
“ will involve you, and you are hurt
“ enough already.”

When Mr. P. was gone, I sat down to consider who were Mrs. Baddeley's friends, and from whom she was most likely to get money, on an application ; but could not tell who to fix on, as few men will bestow their money without a
reward

reward in view ; I gave up the thought, therefore, till I could see her. I now put up a few things for Mrs. Baddeley, ordered the phaeton, set off at four o'clock that afternoon for Oxfordshire, and reached my house at eight. I told her what I had done, and of the fifty pounds I had received, made her put twenty pounds in her pocket, lest if she should be traced out, she might be ill used for want of money to bribe the officers. My design was to return the next morning, but she said, I must not take her with me, till all things were settled. She added, that she was now undone, for that she was more in love with Mr. Gill, than ever; that he was so good, and so attentive to her, that she had not a wish, but it was gratified

before she could well name it; but bad me not be unhappy, for she should do nothing imprudent. I set off for town again, at five in the morning, and was in Grafton-street at nine. Whilst I was at breakfast, a letter came for Mrs. Baddeley, from a person unknown, requesting the favour of being admitted to drink tea with her; and it should be to her benefit, as he flattered himself his rank and situation in life, would not lessen him in her estimation. I conceived this to be the scheme of some Sheriff's officer, therefore ordered the man in, and told him he might take the letter back from whence he brought it. The man said he brought it from a gentleman, at a coffee-house, whom he believed to be a Lord, though he did not know

know him. The manner and appearance of the fellow convinced me I was right in my conjectures ; I therefore sealed the letter, and returned it to him, saying, we never received such kind of letters. He took it and went away, and I ordered my man secretly to follow him. He traced him to an ale-house, where, after staying some time, he saw him come out with Phillips, the officer. This scheme did not avail him, as I was too much on my guard ; it only shews us the arts these men make use of, to accomplish their ends.

Mr. P. soon after came, and said, he had not, as yet, bailed the actions ; as he expected some money in a few days, and thought it best to pay the debt, particularly

cularly as it would save Mrs. Baddeley some pounds. He told me that her creditors behaved to him most cruelly, and put him to all the expence they could.

Mr. Hobart paid me a visit the same day, and said that Lord Coleraine was after a Mrs. Garnier, a very handsome woman, and much admired by the *bon ton*. Lord Albermarle had noticed her till his death, and left her, by all accounts, as a gentleman should do, in a good situation, for she always appeared in a genteel line, and was much the gentlewoman in her manner and deportment.

Presently came Lord Lyttelton, to enquire when Mrs. Baddeley would be in town,

town, and to tell me that his poor friend Johnson was so much in love with her, that he was worn to a skeleton, and lay at the point of death. “Nay,” added his Lordship, “by his raving, as he does at times, and repeating her name so often, I think he must be out of his mind; indeed I am very sorry for him, as he is a good fellow, and has one of the best of hearts.” On my asking who he was; his Lordship said, he was an Irish gentleman, and a man of some family and fortune; that he was then at Bath, and he feared would never return; that he got his illness by cold, in parading our street night and day; which he did for a long time, before Mrs. Baddeley went to Ireland, and for some time after, not knowing she was from home; and

and when he heard she was gone, he watched me for a long time after, hoping by that means to find her out. I remember well, that a person followed me about when I was from home, but conceived it to be one of Lord Coleraine's spies. Lord Lyttelton, in taking leave, begged I would oblige him so far as to let him know when Mrs. Baddeley returned, which I promised.

His Lordship's visit was followed by one from Mr. King, the mercer, and, who was full of his kind enquiries and invitations to King-street, saying, he could shew us some very beautiful silks. He then began about Mr. P. saying, he fought him at law, and it was a pity Mrs. Baddeley had put her affairs into his

his hands. I remonstrated with him on the subject, laid the fault upon him, and said, Mr. P. would have paid him long since, if Mrs. Baddeley had enabled him ; persecuting him therefore, was persecuting her. Had he known this he said, he would not have proceeded against Mr. P. and was willing to give him further time. He then asked some questions respecting Lord Melbourne, but finding me not disposed to answer him, dropped the subject. I could not divine the cause of this visit from Mr. King ; indeed I began to suspect every body.

Mr. Lara, the Jew, having taken one of Mr. P's. notes, given on Mrs. Baddeley's account, and having also a letter
of

of attorney from her creditors, to sue out a writ against her; I thought it advisable to see him, and try what I could do with him. This was for a debt of two hundred and ten pounds, for diamonds, not worth half the money, which she purchased one day through a whim, without having any occasion for them. I saw this man, and talked him into a compliance to wait two months, by taking a fresh note from me and Mr. P. jointly: to this Mr. P. consented, and thus two of the writs, out of four, were compromised for a time. I wished Mr. P. to let me try what I could do with the other two; but he advised me by no means to think of it, it would be involving myself, and might probably bring on my ruin. I told him, that
though

though my ruin was certain to ensue, I would do it, if I thought it would relieve Mrs. Baddeley; nay, that my love for her was so great, that I would cheerfully risk my life, in the same cause. He said it was a strange infatuation, which he did not know how to account for; that rash as it was, he could not but commend me; as he was persuaded, it must arise from affection only; but that, though it militated against him, he should not urge me to it; nay, he begged I would not join him in any securities, as he foresaw what might be the consequence, and he had my welfare too much at heart, to wish it.

“Indeed,” continued he, “for your
 “ sake, I wish I had never seen Mrs.
 “ Baddeley; for I fear she will be my
 VOL. V. S “ ruin,

“ruin, and it would add to my unhappiness, to have you involved with me.” I thanked him for his good wishes, but hoped he would have no reason to repent of what he had done for her; and that he must excuse me in saying, that was I certain a jail would be my portion for life, I would submit to it, provided I could extricate her from the difficulties she was then in; and I would not rest till I saw her out of them. “I do not wish,” said I, “to draw you, or any other person into trouble on her account, and you are sensible I have put myself to inconveniencies to act justly by you.”

I told Mr. P. I meant to see her as the next day, and wished I could with safety

safety bring her back with me. He by no means advised this, till the other writs were settled, but said, if I would permit him, he would accompany me. This did not please me, though I knew not how to avoid it. I long saw through his conduct, and perceived he wished for an opportunity to talk to me, on a subject I was unwilling to hear, and which, by a variety of means, I had hitherto contrived to prevent; though, at times, he had been lavish in his compliments, and it was with difficulty I could restrain him. I had too much on my mind to attend to him, or any other man, and prudence enough to guard against words I ought not to hear. I had daily before my eyes, a lesson dearly bought and paid for; and let the fate of

Mrs. Baddeley be a lesson to all young minds, not to stray from the paths of virtue ; for, with all the beauty she possessed, with all the splendor she enjoyed, and all the admiration she met with, she fell at last a sacrifice, and lived to be unnoticed, by those who once adored her. In short, let them learn from the heroine of these memoirs, to be wary and circumspect, and stand upon their guard against the seduction of men.

Though Mr. P. wished to accompany me into Oxfordshire, under a pretext of seeing Mrs. Baddeley, I contrived to go there alone, and that he should follow me the day after ; and, I rode there on horse-back, that he might have no opportunity of returning with me to town.

town. When I told Mrs. Baddeley, that Mr. P. would be with her the next day, she said, she would contrive to send Mr. Gill off, that they might not meet. She brought this about very well. Mr. Gill went to Oxford, and Mr. P. took his place for one day. Mrs. Baddeley told him, she wished to be in London; but, rather than distress him, she would stay a month where she was. —He seemed pleased with this, and said, it would give him time; his money would then come round, and he should be able to settle with her creditors better; little thinking she had a favourite there to detain her. Mrs. Baddeley saw, as well as I did, the end of all Mr. P's civility and kindness, and was unhappy I had put myself so much in

his power, as to join him in any securities. Though she was sure the business would terminate in a quarrel between him and me, she wished me, for her sake, to carry on matters with him as smooth as I could, and steer off the breach as long as possible. I told her, I was prepared for any thing he might say to me, and would manage him so, as not to make him my enemy. “My fears,” said I, “are more for you than myself, lest you should act imprudently with Mr. Gill.” She frankly confessed, that she weakly fell from one error to another, and that she loved him too much to be happy out of his sight. That marry him she could not, but was as happy with him then, as if she had been married: in short, she gave me
to

to understand, that had she been his wife, she could not have admitted him to greater freedoms. I grew angry with her, but it answered no purpose. “If there is any sin in it,” said she, “I glory in it, and must sin on, and love my Joseph,” (for this was his christian name.) It was now too late to call back her imprudence, and I found it more to her interest to get her away; but, she raved about him, said it was heaven to be in his company, and hell without him; that she must end her days with him, and the like.

The next morning, Mr. P. urged me to return with him in his post-chaise, which I could not avoid doing; and, I got home, without hearing any thing I disliked.

I disliked. He made an attempt three or four times in his journey, but I always contrived to evade the subject. On my return, I found Lord Harrington had called, and also Mr. Damer, Sir Thomas Mills, Mr. Mayne the banker, and some other gentlemen, whom my maid did not know. I fear I shall tire my reader's patience, by dwelling on the subject of Mr. P.; but, it is indispensably necessary, to shew him how the matter ended with him; must, therefore, call upon his candor on this relation, as it will not be long before the mystery opens; and the consequence, though it may give pain to a feeling mind, will be an instructive lesson to the world, and teach the incautious,
not

not to put too much confidence in the greatest plausibility.

On my saying, that I could not be happy without Mrs. Baddeley, and expressing a wish to get her home immediately, Mr. P. settled the other action out against her, the next day; brought me the papers to convince me of it, and said, she might now return when she pleased. These papers were only such as allowed more time, for the debts were not paid; the writs, however, against her were discharged. He now took an opportunity to say, he had much pain at heart. I replied, "I have
"pains there too, which nothing but
"money can relieve." He told me, his were of a different kind, that they
pro-

proceeded from love, and love of me; and if, after all he had done for Mrs. Baddeley, (which, from the first, he did to oblige me, and convince me of his regard) I did not promise him a return of such affection, she might get who she would to pay him, for he would have done with her, and give himself no more trouble about her. My reply was not such as he was pleased with; yet, as things were, I was far from uncivil, and said all I could to moderate his passions; told him, I did not reject his suit from dislike, but, that my situation in life put a negative on it; and, I flattered myself, no behaviour of mine could give him, or any one, cause to suppose he might succeed with me in his wishes. In short, to enter

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ter into all the conversation that passed between us on this head, as it relates not to the history of Mrs. Baddeley's life, would be deviating from the subject; let it suffice to say, that his determination was to give her up, and suffer her to be torn to pieces, unless I complied. Dreading all this, I made use of deception, told him, that persons in my circumstances ought to weigh the matter well, before they determined. He replied, he would give me any time, in reason, to consider of it, so as I thought proper to afford him any hopes. By this mode of acting, I gained time, but not without the mortification, at times, of being obliged to listen to his fulsome addresses. To avoid it as much as possible, I set off to fetch Mrs. Baddeley

deley home, which I effected, with great reluctance on her part, and a promise on mine, that she should go every week to see Mr. Gill. She was, however, happy on her return to Grafton-street; and, as there was to be a masked ball, at the Pantheon, the week following, we began to think of our dresses. I told her, that what she had prophesied of Mr. P. had come to pass, and begged, that whenever he came, she would make a point of not leaving us together. She did this for some days, and it freed me from his nonsense; but, he soon saw into this, and came so often, as to know every thing we did; when out, when at home, what we eat, and what we drank—Finding no opportunity to talk to me alone, he
became

became very pressing for money, and told Mrs. Baddeley, that, if she and I would give him a bond, for seven hundred pounds, payable in one year; he should, by endorsing it, be able to borrow the money upon it, at a small premium, of a friend of his, a Jew in the city. She agreed to this; but I told him I did not like bonds, they were things too serious to trifle with; for, that I had known a family ruined by incautiously signing one; and wished he would not urge either of us to execute it. Mrs. Baddeley said, if I would not, she would. Mr. P. upbraided me much on my unwillingness, thus to serve him and Mrs. Baddeley; forgetting the advice he had but a little time before given me, on this subject. Knowing

that I was to go out that afternoon, to see one of my children, that was ill at school, he invited himself to tea with Mrs. Baddeley, and brought a bond with him, which she executed in my absence; and, on my return, begged me, in the most affectionate language, to oblige her by signing it also; saying, she had read the bond and signed it. “Have *you* read it?” said I,—“Then I will read it too.” “Good God,” replied she, “is not my reading it sufficient? Sure, you would not doubt Mr. P’s. veracity, and mine!”—This was sufficient: I had plunged into every thing through love to her, and it was only plunging deeper. I took the pen and signed it. He then said, he should receive the money in a week, and Mrs. Baddeley

Baddeley might rely on it, that he would bring her the two hundred pounds she wanted. At this time, Mr. P. had given his securities for her, to the amount of two thousand pounds; seven hundred pounds, therefore, was but about a third of it.

When he was gone, I asked her, seriously, whether she had read the bond: she assured me she had, and it was for seven hundred pounds only, and, that as he had been so disappointed in his wishes, respecting me, and she was so much in his debt, she and I could do no less than we had, to keep him in good humour. “We had a great deal of talk,” added she, “about you; he has been
“telling me, how much he is in love

“ with you, and how unhappy you have
“ made him. I told him, I was sorry
“ for it ; and, asked him, why he did
“ not fall in love with me ? He smil-
“ ed, and said he *did* love me, but not
“ so much as you ; and, that no man
“ could help his feelings. If he loved
“ me,” added she, “ I would gratify
“ him in any thing ; for I would do all
“ in my power to serve him and oblige
“ him, and that from a sense of grati-
“ tude.” Here Mrs. Baddeley pleased
me less than ever ; for she became an
advocate for him, urging me to counte-
nance him, saying, I should thus secure
him for life, a friend to both of us :
that, he was far from a disagreeable
man, and that he was a person *she* could
love. I grew warm upon this occasion,
told

told her what I had done to shew my affection for her, of course it was not to be disputed ; that, I had given her my little fortune, which I had for years worked for, and did not repine ; that, I had also forsaken my husband, neglected my family, and given her myself, and would now give up my life, if necessary, to serve her ; but, to part with my honour, which was dearer to me than life, I would not consent to. I was so angry with her, that I cried. She then begged my pardon, said, she did it merely to try me, and was only in joke. This I am persuaded was not the case, there was a little selfishness at bottom that might arise from fear, or some other cause ; as no part of her life gave

me any reason to suppose she wished me to follow her example.

I must now inform my reader, that Mrs. Baddeley, having some doubts that her coach and horses would, by some means or other, be taken from her, and, being a married woman, could bring no action to recover them; did, some months before this, beg Mr. P. to draw up a receipt for her to sign, making over the carriage and horses to him, as if he had purchased them. He drew up such a paper, and she signed it; and, as I thought it then a matter of little consequence, I did not oppose it. She had made up a very handsome masquerade dress, but the diamonds were

were wanting to complete it; these I consented to her having, and the following articles were hired for her, by me;

Of Mr. Drury, jeweller, in the Strand—a pair of brilliant ear-rings.

Of Mr. Bellas, Pall-Mall—a large diamond bow and pins.

Of Mr. Dingwell, St. James's-street—three diamond necklaces.

For her design was to put the three necklaces together, and make a belt of them, from her shoulder to her waste, with the bow at the end. She said, that by wearing these ornaments, she should still preserve her credit with the public, and those to whom she was indebted; and, that as many of her creditors

ditors would be at the masquerade, if they saw she had still some property, they would not be so apt to distress her. This consideration led me to acquiesce in the expence, for she was to pay two and a half per cent. for the use of them for that night; and the value of them was some thousands. On the day of this masquerade, when her hair was dressed, and I was under the hands of the hair-dresser, we heard a noise in the house I had never heard before. I ran to the stairs head, and found ten men running up. One of them pushed by me, and ran to Mrs. Baddeley, the rest followed, and, for my life, I could not conceive what they wanted. Poor Baddeley was so terrified, that she fainted. The fellows did not declare their
business,

business, but told her, they would not use her ill. On my asking who they were, the one that first pushed me, and ran by me, said, he was a Sheriff's officer, and that he did arrest Mrs. Baddeley. "At whose suit?" said I, "— I will bail it." He said, the action was notailable, of course she must go with him; that her coach would be presently at the door, and she must go to his house in Southampton-street, near Chancery-lane. Mrs. Baddeley cried so much, and screamed, that I could not read the writ, though the fellow held it out. At last, however, I found it to be an execution against her, for one thousand six hundred pounds, and the same against my goods for four hundred pounds, at the suit of Mr. P. on a bond
and

and judgment, with a warrant of attorney, signed by us both to him, which bond, instead of seven hundred pounds, and payable in a year, as we supposed, was made out, or altered for two thousand pounds, and no time allowed. I asked her, when she was a little pacified, if she read it before she signed it, and she declared she did ; though afterwards I found she had not. “ Read it or
“ not, said the officer to her, “ it is the
“ same, you must now pay it to me ;” and if I did not pay the four hundred pounds before the term, my goods would be sold. In this scuffle, I had recollection enough to take up the diamonds, and put them into my pocket, meaning to return them the next day ; but, in my confusion, I left one of the necklaces
behind,

behind, which, I never heard of afterwards, and was obliged to pay Mr. Dingwell three hundred and fifty pounds for, within these two years. When her coach came, I said I would go with her, “Will,” said the officer, “you *must*;” “for I have a writ also against *you*, for” “forty-nine pounds. However, Ma-” “dam,” said he, “I will not oblige” “*you* to go, but will wait on you at” “some other time.”—I was so angry, that I could not thank the fellow, for his intended civility; but, told him, he might go to the devil, and tell his employer, Mr. P. that I would end him for this piece of villainy. The bailiff replied, “He has done this, Madam,” “only to try Mrs. Baddeley’s friends,” “who are able to pay the money, and,” “who

“ who, he supposes, will, in the course
“ of a very few days; and though his
“ want of money has obliged him to
“ this step, it will be for Mrs. Badde-
“ ley’s good in the end.”

END OF THE FIFTH VOLUME.



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Steele, Elizabeth

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